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County's talented young achievers are honoured

By Eva Astreinidou

THE achievements of 46 young people across the county have been celebrated, rewarding them for their contributions to sport, art or citizenship.

Dozens of young people from South Oxfordshire were given prizes for their efforts on Wednesday last week at Didcot Civic Hall.

The event was organised by South Oxfordshire District Council and attended by district council chairman Paul Harrison and vice chairman Jeanette Matelot, who presented certificates to the young people and awarded each with £250.

Those recognised for their achievements include a volunteer who started a 'Secret Santa' charity to distribute gifts to sick, vulnerable and elderly people, a set of triplets who are competitive skiers, and a 16-year-old euphonium player.

Nursing assistant Courtney Hughes, 18, came up with the 'Secret Santa' charity in honour of her grandma who loved Christmas, and who sadly passed away in 2013.

In December, Courtney and her family, neighbours and friends helped wrap more than 4,000 presents over a seven-hour period to be able to donate the gifts, food parcels, and emergency care package to thousands of sick and vulnerable members of the community.

After the awards, she said: "It is always wonderful for the charity to be highlighted but this award was really special to me.

"Having recognition from my home town really means the world to me.

"Meeting all the other amazing young people who are achieving so much makes me proud to live in Oxfordshire and be a young person.

"Everyone was so deserving and I know we will hear great things in the future about them all."

Other winners included synchronised

• Continues on page 3

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A34 death crash driver: 'I deserve all that I get'

By Adam Flinn

"I'VE ruined a lot of people's lives, happiness, and I deserve everything I get whatever comes now."

Those are the words of Lewis Stratford, who is due to be sentenced tomorrow for causing the death of 28-year-old Gavin Roberts by dangerous driving after a crash near Compton on the A34 last June.

He was speaking to Mr Roberts' girlfriend Meg Williamson, in a meeting between the two broadcast on the BBC's Inside Out programme on Monday evening.

Miss Williamson arranged the meeting to "get some questions answered" about what happened on June 11 last year.

Stratford, of Field Avenue, Oxford, said during the exchange: "I know I caused a lot of pain for a lot of people, I know what I've done.

"I am sorry but I can't keep saying sorry because I know people don't want to hear it. Sorry's not going to make things better, ever."

Talking about the crash, Stratford, 24, said: "[My girlfriend] was on the phone as the crash happened and she just said she heard scraping and brakes screeching, and obviously the impact was quite loud.

"He (Mr Roberts) was just minding his own business that night, and that's what I think about all the time. He was just going to work, it makes me feel horrible."

Mr Roberts, an Australian who was living in Swindon, died four days after the crash.

Stratford appeared at Reading Crown Court on January 24 charged with causing death by dangerous driving, to which he pleaded guilty.

During the meeting, Stratford said he had been making an emotional call to his girlfriend at the time of the crash.

Miss Williamson said: "You start to feel that life feels normal, then you feel guilty because you're still here, and I've been suffering really badly with my anxiety.

"Getting onto that road is really difficult, but I have sisters who travel on it, friends that travel on it every single day, so it probably adds to my worry.

"I'm more conscious when I'm driving when I see other drivers on the road now, and if they're on their phone, I just think that they don't realise, and a lot of people just don't care because they don't think it's going to happen to them.

"I don't want to hate you forever, I'm not that type of person, and eventually I'll probably be able to forgive you, but I just needed some questions answering first."

• *Gavin Roberts died in the crash on the A34 last summer*

It comes after a change in the law that took effect yesterday which sees the punishment for being caught driving while using a mobile phone increase to six penalty points and a £200 fine.

This is double the current fixed penalty of a £100 fine and three points.

The crash was one of a number of high-profile incidents on the A34 over the past year that included the deaths of four people in August caused by a driver who was distracted by his phone. He was jailed for 10 years in October.

MPs debated improving safety on the A34 in Parliament in October, leading to measures being announced such as CCTV cameras, electronic signs, and vehicle detection loops that detect traffic levels.

The full interview is available to watch on Inside Out South on BBC iPlayer.

Bus drivers on strike over pay

OXFORD Bus company has announced two days of strike action after disputes over Christmas pay.

The company said that passengers are likely to face significant disruption to their travel today and Monday as a result of industrial action by Unite, but say they will make every effort to minimise inconvenience and continue to seek a swift resolution.

Unite has called its members out on strike in a dispute over pay arrangements for drivers over the Christmas 2016 period.

Some of the services that will either be highly restricted or cancelled include the city2, city3, city4B, the airline (only affecting the route to Birmingham airport), and park&ride500. Stagecoach will operate equivalent services for most of the routes affected.

School services 3B and 35A will operate as normal.

The bus company has said that in line with industry standards, drivers were paid premium rates for three bank holidays over the Christmas and New Year period.

Unite has asked for bank holiday pay over five days.

Average salary for drivers range from yearly earnings of £29,000 within the city and £34,000 on long-distance routes.

Oxford Bus Company has said that the demand for two extra bank holidays' pay would be likely to mean an increase in fares for its passengers.

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• *Wantage store director Nicky Rutter is delighted to have received the Platinum award*

Optician's delight at award

AN OPTICIAN in Wantage has been awarded Platinum Employer Status in recognition of the store 'being a great place to work'.

Specsavers, based on Grove Street in Wantage, achieved accreditation after being assessed against five standards in different areas of an employees' experience.

Areas measured as part of the five stage process include performance management, recruitment, induction, talent management and rewards.

The Platinum Employer scheme was created to help support the recruitment and training of Specsavers staff across the country.

Nicky Rutter, store director for Wantage said: "It's great to have received platinum as it is a testament to the hard work we are putting in here to create a positive culture as well as our commitment to staff development."

Didcot A victims' lawyers slam distress for families

By Eva Astreinidou

• *Emergency services on the scene after the collapse a year ago*

A LAW firm representing the Didcot Three has criticised agencies investigating the collapse of the Didcot 'A' Power Station last year for the 'ordeal' the families are still going through.

On February 23, 2016, Christopher Huxtable, from Swansea, Kenneth Cresswell and John Shaw, both from Rotherham, and Michael Collings, from north Yorkshire, lost their lives after the partial collapse of the boiler house.

While the Didcot community remembered the anniversary of the disaster on Thursday last week, the relatives of those killed are still awaiting answers to the cause of the collapse.

Thames Valley Police and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) are yet to complete its investigation into the incident and the inquest into all four deaths cannot be carried out until this has concluded.

Keith Cundall, a specialist workplace accident lawyer at Irwin Mitchell who represents the families of Mr Cresswell, Mr Shaw and Mr Huxtable, said: "The tragic disaster that occurred at Didcot Power Station last February will live long in the memories of those who witnessed it and those who lost family and friends.

"The lives of the families we represent have been changed forever and the uncertainty about the current situation continues to cause them an unbelievable amount of distress, particularly after the ordeal they went through before their loved ones were finally recovered.

"The families want to know why this terrible event occurred and we will support them in getting the answers they deserve.

"As the anniversary passes it is a timely reminder that it has been a year since the accident and the families are still battling for answers."

Gail Cresswell, Mr Cresswell's wife, said: "We know nothing. The last time we heard from the HSE was in November. It's horrendous."

TVP and HSE released a joint statement on the day of the anniversary to say that investigations into the cause of the incident continue and that "the thoughts of both agencies remain with the men's families".

More than 1,300 statements have been taken, while over 2,600 physical and documentary exhibits and 60,000 still images and video footage have been collected.

To commemorate the disaster, Didcot held a minute's silence at 4pm and flew the town flag at half-mast.

Four streets on the Didcot North East development could be named after the victims.

News Bites

The Apprentices

DIDCOT: Milton Park Innovation Centre will be hosting an event to help local businesses understand the benefits to their organisations of taking on apprentices.

As part of National Apprenticeship week, the Vale4Business team is co-organising the free session to answer questions surrounding the process.

The 'Making Sense of Apprenticeships' event will be held at Milton Park Innovation Centre on March 7 between 8.30am and 10am.

To register, visit making-sense-of apprenticeships.eventbrite.co.uk.

Pop out for food

DIDCOT: Didcot Town Council is to host a pop up food bar on March 13 to celebrate 'Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth Day'.

A variety of cuisine from across the commonwealth will be available to the public, including different breakfast (8am-11am), lunch (12.30pm-2pm) and high tea (3pm-4.30pm) menus.

All profits will go towards the Commonwealth Charity.

There is a competition for schoolchildren should they want to take part.

For more information about the competition, visit tinyurl.com/htk6dld.

Have your say online

'Delight' at achievements

• *From front page*

swimmers Lottie Moghul, 12, and Teri-Faye Coupar, 15, ice dancers Hannah Stewart and Anais Arnould, aged 13 and 15, 16-year-old endurance athlete Nancie Bowley, and Emily Williams, 15, who volunteers to help at her local Beaver group.

Councillor Elizabeth Gillespie, cabinet member for grants at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "I'm delighted that we are recognising the achievements of these talented young people.

"They are involved in activities ranging from voluntary community work, music and traditional sports."

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Calls for transparency on cuts to healthcare

By George Welch

OXFORDSHIRE County Council has called for transparency and further detail about knock-on effects of plans to change primary care from the group that commissions health services across the county.

The county's cabinet said in a meeting on Tuesday last week that it cannot support the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's (OCCG) plans to deal with a £134m funding gap in the region's NHS.

The first phase of consultation on the plans for the future of Oxfordshire Health and Care Services started on January 16.

In the meeting, members of the cabinet reviewed the consultation and referred to a lack of forward thinking in the sustainability and transformation plan (STP), in that a change in one amenity could lead to a wider 'domino effect'.

In a post-meeting report, the response was that the plans, which include a change in bed-stock, intensive care services and maternity services at the Horton General Hospital could have a significant knock-on effect on other services.

The councillors resolved: "These possible impacts are not covered by this consultation.

"This is a vital issue for local people and is therefore a serious deficiency in the consultation document."

They said they understand the concept of closing hospital bed stock to help prevent admission and also help to reduce harmful long stays, but added: "The UK already has lower numbers of beds than comparable European countries.

"At a time when pressures on emergency departments are rising and delayed transfers of care remain a cause for concern, it may be premature to make these changes.

"It may be more sensible for Oxfordshire to adopt a 'wait and see' policy on this issue until the impact of bed closures proposed in other parts of the country can be properly evaluated."

On the topic of adult social care in the community and the proposals of focusing on care closer to home, they said: "There are times in the acute phase of an illness or in cases requiring complex care or post-op care when a hospital bed may be the best place to be.

Again, the proposals do not contain the detail we would need about community services for us to have a sensible understanding of their impact on adult social care."

The cabinet also concluded that the production of the consultation underwent a significant delay that could have in turn affected the coherence of the proposals.

They added: "It makes the consultation feel less transparent to communities. The consultation proposals as they stand are unlikely to satisfy the concerns of people in some parts of the county."

The report added that with the addition of 100,000 homes within Oxfordshire in the period 2011-31, of which around 85,000 remain to be built, that the NHS proposals "should take full account of the scale of new housing".

A spokeswoman for Oxfordshire CCG said: "The CCG is currently seeking people's views and opinions on the plans for transformation of health services in Oxfordshire.

"Our consultation will listen to feedback from everyone who gets involved, including cabinet members at Oxfordshire County Council."

The updated version of the OCCG proposals will be presented to the county council on March 21 to gather further comment.

• Chris Green with Jodie Sabin from the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and below, halfway through the shave

Close shave for Chris

COTSWOLD Wildlife Park handed out quite a treat to global charity Make-A-Wish.

On February 23, the Make-A-Wish Foundation visited the park for a cheque presentation by the penguin keeper, Chris Green.

Mr Green recently raised £1,717.50 by shaving off his beard that he was growing for three years for his favourite charity, and presented them with the cheque in the penguin enclosure.

He said: "I'm really touched by people's generosity and want to thank everyone who supported me and donated to this incredible charity. I'm already plotting my next fundraising venture and if anyone has any great ideas, please get in touch!"

Jodie Sabin from Make-A-Wish said: "Chris has a raised a fantastic amount of money for Make-A-Wish and we are really grateful to him for everything he has done.

"The money raised will go towards granting magical wishes for children living with life threatening illnesses and we simply wouldn't be able to do this work without the amazing support from people like Chris."

News Bites

E-fit released

BICESTER: An e-fit image has been released after a woman was sexually assaulted in Bicester two weeks ago.

Police would like to speak to a man who matches the description of the e-fit (pictured below) in connection with the sexual assault.

The incident took place at around 8.50pm on Thursday, February 16 when a woman in her 30s was walking in Chapel Street when she saw a man approaching her.

The man then spoke to the victim and sexually assaulted her before running away in the direction of Priory Road.

Banbury CID are appealing to anyone who recognises the man depicted in the e-fit or who has further information.

Detective Ruth Ivins of Banbury CID said: "Specially trained officers are continuing to offer their support to the victim and detectives are working to locate the offender."

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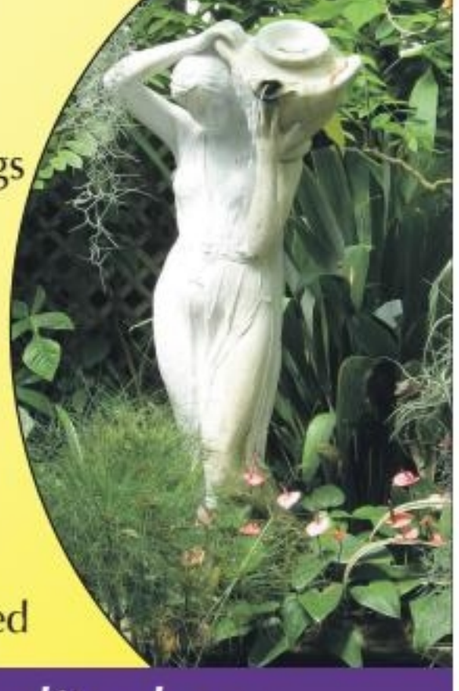

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• *The explosion at the block of flats in Gibbs Crescent on February 14 (Picture by Alexander Hammonds)*

Police conclude on-site investigations

By George Welch

POLICE officers have left the scene of an explosion in west Oxford after completing their on-site investigations.

Thames Valley Police confirmed on Thursday last week that it had completed its work at Gibbs Crescent as investigations move away from the site of destruction where a three-storey block of flats was flattened.

At around 4.45pm on February 14, emergency services were called to Gibbs Crescent, following an explosion and fire.

Following the Valentine's Day blast, a multi-agency operation was launched to make the area safe and to carry out investigation work.

A post-mortem examination into human remains found in the rubble of the collapsed block of flats has proved 'inconclusive', police have said.

Emergency crews have scoured the rubble near the marina and the remains are believed to be that of 'missing' man Guido Schuette.

The force issued a public appeal for the 48-year-old, who officially remains missing, on February 9.

Mr Schuette's family has been informed and are continuing to be offered support from officers.

Thames Valley Police neighbourhood officers have been patrolling Gibbs Crescent to offer support to residents.

The force last week launched a recovery co-ordination group, which will be headed up by Oxford City Council and the site has been handed over to Oxford City Council and housing association A2Dominion.

A2Dominion has a site office and support officers to assist residents who have remained at Gibbs Crescent, and ongoing support is being given by A2D to those who have been displaced by this incident.

Tim Sadler, city council's executive director for community services, who is chairing the recovery co-ordination group, said: "The group will include representatives from the police, A2D, social care, the NHS and other agencies if and when necessary.

"Its role is to oversee and co-ordinate the return of the area to a state of normality as quickly and safely as possible, and to coordinate responses to the needs of residents who have been affected by the emergency."

Fleeing Oxford raises £13k for charity

OXFORD students travelled more than 27,000 miles in 36 hours raising over £12,800 for charities.

The 27 teams set off at 6am on Saturday with no money and relying only on the goodwill of passers by to help them get as far away as possible.

Two of this year's jailbreakers have raised £1,007.66, reaching Louvain-la-Neuve in Belgium.

Third year students Eleanor Holt and Chevonne van Rhee set off on their challenge with very little else than the goal to get as far away from Oxford as possible by 6pm on Sunday.

The pair had no money, tickets, or passes, but just 36 hours to complete their challenge.

They were busy in the run-up to the big day, collecting more than £500 from their bake sale on February 21, and featuring on the radio the very same day.

All the cash raised goes straight to charity and half of the cash to charities based in Oxford.

The charities to receive the donations are Oxford Homeless Pathways, Oxford Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis, Student Minds, and the Schistosomiasis Control Initiative.

• *Eleanor Holt and Chevonne van Rhee managed to get to Belgium without any cash as part of the Oxford jailbreak*

Before embarking on the challenge, they said: "We are inspired by the work of these charities, and think they are hugely deserving of your support.

"Obviously these are quite big targets, so at the moment we are trying to raise as much awareness as possible.

"We think it's a fantastic and pretty unusual opportunity to raise money and much-needed awareness for four really deserving charities, so at the moment we're mostly excited, if a little apprehensive about the size of the challenge we've set ourselves.

"But we think getting even close to those goals would be really worthwhile."

Jailbreak is RAG's biggest event of the year, with past students reaching all over the UK, Europe, and beyond, from Poland to Budapest to Istanbul, to Tokyo and South Africa.

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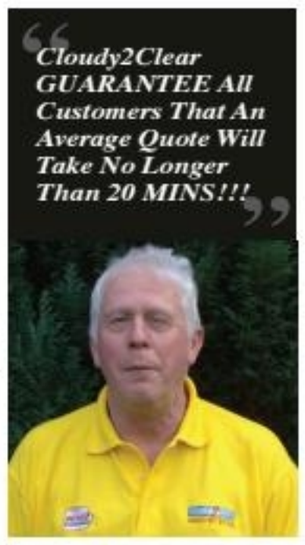

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• *Oxford City Farm members receive their cheque from the Big Lottery Fund*

Funding boost leads to Fun on the Farm

By Eva Astreinidou

A CHARITY bidding to establish a working community-based farm in Oxford is celebrating after receiving more than £3,000 from the Big Lottery Fund to run a community event later this year.

Oxford City Farm said it was "delighted" to receive a large cheque of £3,018.50 to help organise their Fun on the Farm community event on October 8.

The group was the last in England to receive funding from the Big Lottery Fund's Celebrate programme, which aims to help local groups hold events or activities to bring people together and celebrate what makes their community 'special'.

The project aims to change a brownfield site on Cornwallis Road into a farm that works with the community including schools, educating them about food, farming and the future.

Sally Mullard, volunteer fundraising co-ordinator for Oxford City Farm, said: "We're delighted to have received this funding.

"The focus for the day will be on celebrating all the work our volunteers, steering group and supporters have put into securing a wonderful new green space for the local community.

"We have lots of fun food-related activities planned including bring-a-plate picnic, apple pressing, music, and craft activities for kids and lots more.

"It will also be a great opportunity for local people to see the site and share their ideas about how the farm will develop."

The funding will also help the farm to build two toilets for the site and employ an event co-ordinator and community artist to help organise and run the event.

The trustees of Oxford City Farm also announced the signing of a 40-year lease on a 2.3 acre piece of land in the Florence Park area of East Oxford last week.

The group said: "The lease enables us to get on the land and get stuck into the work of bringing city farming to Oxford."

Burglars with machete being sought by cops

A PAIR of raiders armed with a machete kicked in a Bampton man's door and stole his shotguns.

The victim, a man in his 30s, told police he was alone in his Station Road home when a man knocked on his door at around 10.20pm on February 19.

He was on the phone at the time and saw the man through the window, but did not answer.

About 10 minutes later his front door was kicked in and the intruder, armed with a machete, threatened the victim and 'demanded items', police said.

The machete-wielding burglar, a white man, was then joined by a black man, described as around 6ft tall with dreadlocks.

Police said the white man was wearing a dark woolly hat with a scarf around his face, a dark coat with the hood pulled up, khaki or blue trousers and bright yellow running shoes.

The pair stole three shotguns and cartridges, before driving off in a small dark-coloured hatchback car.

The victim was not hurt.

Det Insp Richard Pickering, from Banbury Force CID, said: "I understand the theft of these items may cause concern in the community, but there is no information to suggest the stolen items will be used in connection with a particular incident."

Contact police on 101.

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Campaign urging men to talk about mental problems

By Eva Astrienidou

AN MP is backing a five-year campaign by Time to Change that aims to 'break the cycle' of men feeling unable to talk about mental health issues, after alarming figures reveal that suicide is the biggest killer in males under 45.

On Thursday last week, Time to Change launched their new five-year campaign In Your Corner, which urges friends to help their mates talk about mental health issues and be a person they can confide in.

Men are three times more likely to die by suicide than women.

Writing for The Huffington Post, Nicola Blackwood, MP and minister for public health and innovation, said: "The human cost is unacceptable and shows the need for swift action and a renewed focus at all levels – from central and local government, from charities and voluntary organisations."

The Oxford West and Abingdon member added: "Talking about mental health issues can be daunting. I have seen first-hand how important it is to have someone they can confide in and trust."

She added: "I am determined that our mental health services are also somewhere people feel they can reach out to for help.

"We now have strengthened our cross-Government suicide prevention strategy, which specifically targets those most at risk like young and middle-aged men. We have worked with local authorities to make sure that every local area has a suicide prevention strategy in place by the end of 2017.

"So far 95 per cent of local authorities have or are developing one, which is a big step forward."

Jo Loughran, director of operations at Time to Change, said: "Our research clearly shows that mental health problems are just not on the radar for men.

"However, we also know that men feel strongly about brotherhood and friendship and can play a vital role in looking out for their friends' mental health and wellbeing.

"We want to show that being in your friend's corner doesn't have to be difficult or awkward. Breaking the cycle of men feeling unable to reach out has never been more urgent. We need to help men realise they can make a real difference, even change someone's life."

Dan Knowles, CEO at Oxfordshire Mind, said: "We are deeply saddened with the most recent data and the ongoing trend in male suicide rates. Suicide in every age and gender bracket is a tragedy, and more work must be done to understand those people at risk. Of course, we will continue to support them when they need it.

"We were pleased with the Prime Minister's announcement earlier in the year surrounding the need for mental health reform and hope this will have an impact on these statistics."

In January, PM Theresa May committed to making mental health care a priority for this government.

Get your orange juices flowing

HELP Oxfordshire go orange this month and raise funds for Helen & Douglas House.

The charity, which helps terminally ill young people and their families, is asking individuals, groups, schools, colleges and businesses from across the county to Go Orange #hdhorange and to do something fun and eye-catching to raise vital funds for the charity.

It could be anything from orange dress-down days to hair-dying, orange-themed suppers and decorated cupcakes. The more imaginative, bigger and brighter the idea the better!

Currently 50 small to medium businesses are getting behind Go Orange, including businesses in Magdalen Road, where the hospice is located.

For more information visit hdh.org.uk, email fundraising@helenanddouglas.org.uk or call 01865 799150.

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Support the Oxfordshire Guardian's charity of the year – Play2Give

Team set to take on monster of a race

By George Welch

A TEAM of five will tackle the might of next month's Monster Race to support our charity of the year, Play2Give, in its 10th anniversary year.

Leaseguard Group Ltd, based at Unipart House in Garsington Road, Cowley, Oxford, has assembled a squad to defeat the mighty obstacle assault run at Cornbury Park in west Oxfordshire on April 1.

Funds raised will help P2G support local people in need.

The contract lifecycle management company, which has been running for 25 years, helps NHS Trusts generate savings on their maintenance and leasing contracts.

The team, led by Lee Edwards, from Didcot, also includes Lesley Saunders, Jonathan Wickens, and husband and wife pair Charlie and Martyn Sadler. They hope to raise £400.

The Monster Race will involve the fabulous five taking on a range of obstacles in 5k or 10k races, which all include lots of mud and water, and the bog of eternal stench.

Lee, who has been friends with P2G's founder Andrew Baker, from Didcot, since they met in 2008, said: "Andrew's an inspiration. We are all honoured to take part in the gruelling challenge to support him and this fantastic cause.

"Andrew has worked tirelessly (with the support of others) to raise extraordinary amounts of money.

"There have been some really fantastic initiatives, such as football tournaments that I have had the pleasure of playing in. Andrew's energy and dedication despite his own challenges never cease to amaze."

P2G has raised £55,670 for a catalogue of local charities since Andrew formed the fundraising organisation in September 2007. Of this, the children's hospital has benefited from more than £40,000.

Born with a brain injury, Andrew has been raising money for charity since the age of 14 in 2003 when he was inspired by treatment he received. He had major brain surgery aged 12 for a tumour that developed following a head injury four years earlier.

The funds Leaseguard raise will go into P2G's £10k in 10 appeal this year as part of its 10th anniversary charity campaign.

• Raring to go in the Monster Race are, from left, Lesley Saunders, Lee Edwards, Charlie Sadler and Jonathan Elsmore Wickens

The Children's Hospital at the John Radcliffe and brain injury charity Headway Oxfordshire will also benefit from the Monster Run.

To sponsor the Leaseguard team, visit tinyurl.com/z5sj98w.

P2G has already raised over £1,900 in its £10k in 10 appeal. To donate, visit tinyurl.com/zksd8xx.

Hospital honour for P2G

A ROOM at Oxford Children's Hospital (Chox) will be named in honour of Play2Give (P2G) and unveiled next week as testament to the charity's decade of efforts.

The room at Melanie's Ward was due to be opened under its new name yesterday, with celebrations to mark the contribution of P2G coinciding with the charity's 10th anniversary year.

The P2G room is on Melanie's Ward, where teenagers stay at the hospital.

To name the room, the charity had to raise £40,000.

Now the hospital is recognising the charity's 'long term contribution and philanthropy' after the organisation's years of support.

Andrew Baker, founder of the charity, said: "It was a lovely sentiment for Play2Give's efforts to be valued and recognised in such a special way.

"Never did we think we would achieve this, so to see it become 'real' in that the name of the organisation becomes a lasting legacy is truly the proudest and most amazing achievement in both that of P2G and my fundraising's history."

Speaking of future plans with the hospital, Andrew said the charity will continue to fundraise to help provide the very best and the latest medical equipment and facilities "above and beyond NHS standards".

He also mentioned that the accolade was extra special as Mya, 14, who is the daughter of P2G's Dale Harris, will benefit from the room throughout her teenage years.

P2G has raised funds through events, by taking part in fun runs and through campaigns like Sleigh2Give, which aims to bring joy and Christmas cheer to the young patients.

Andrew added: "We are truly thankful to the hospital charity and the ward for giving us this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It isn't just given to anyone."

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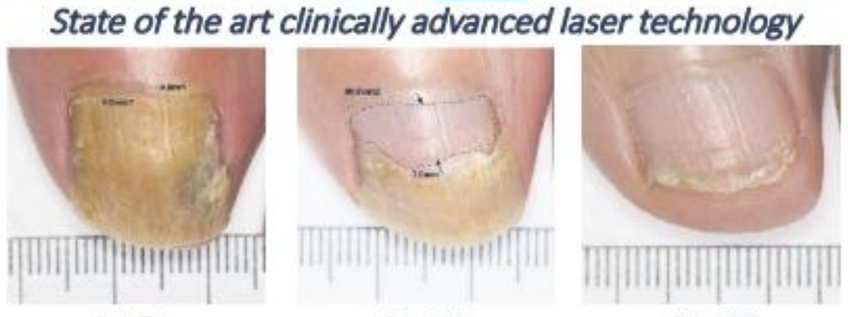
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Roads cash boost for 'vulnerable'

A TOTAL of £239,000 has been awarded to Oxfordshire for schemes to improve road journeys and help reduce congestion.

The funds were granted by the Department of Transport and will help provide real-time parking information for Blue Badge holders, as well as support for people with disabilities.

The amount is part of £4m awarded to 19 councils for technology that will improve road travel through apps and sensors, with the capacity to give motorists advance notice of congestion and notify them of free parking spaces.

The technology could be used to cut congestion and improve parking in city centres.

John Howell MP for Henley, said: "It is good to see Oxfordshire getting one of the highest bids for projects. I am sure these will make a big difference to travellers and it is good to see technology being brought into use at an early stage."

Roads minister Andrew Jones MP, said: "I congratulate the cutting-edge, innovative ideas. Technology is rapidly evolving and this important work shows that if we get it right, it can cut congestion, speed up journeys, clean up the environment and improve accessibility."

Ponds to spice up park

• *Volunteers count fish as part of an earlier Wild Banbury project*

By Samantha McGregor

A WILDLIFE charity wants to build three ponds to improve Spiceball Park in Banbury.

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust, BBOWT, has submitted proposals to create the water features on rough grassland.

One will include a pond dipping deck as well as educational signs aimed at getting local people involved in nature. The area will also be used for outdoor learning sessions by local schools.

BBOWT has teamed up with Banbury Town Council to create Wild Banbury, a volunteer group aimed at improving wildlife areas across the town.

The project has been funded through grants from Heritage Lottery Fund, Grundon Waste Management, Banbury town and Cherwell district councils.

If the planning application is approved work on the first two larger ponds could start this summer.

In a report, BBOWT said Spiceball Park did not have any ponds that were separate to the River Cherwell.

It said: "Ponds have rich flora and fauna and provide habitat for a variety of species such as amphibians and invertebrates.

"They also have the potential to attract and support legally protected species such as great crested newts and various bat species.

"The new wildlife ponds will not be stocked with fish, therefore they will be able to support breeding populations of amphibians.

"All works will be undertaken in as environmentally sensitive a way as possible."

News Bites

Assault charges

BICESTER: Two people have been charged after four people were allegedly assaulted at a house in Hamilton Close on February 18.

Fergie Suika, 19, from Lena Crescent, Enfield, London, faces four counts of assault by beating, and a 16-year-old boy, also from London, has been charged with one count.

Both have appeared at Banbury Magistrates' Court. Suika was remanded in custody and the juvenile released on conditional bail.

Business advice

THAME: Anyone starting a business can get free face-to-face advice from Oxford Business Enterprise.

For more information or to book an appointment, visit oxonbe.co.uk

New defibrillator

THAME: A defibrillator has been installed at Racquets Fitness Centre in North Street as part of a community initiative.

The club has been raising money for the past two years to pay for the life-saving equipment.

Fitness centre owner Simon Martin said: "I'd like to dedicate this defibrillator to my dad Richard Martin who died one year ago of cancer."

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Could you help teach a child to read?

EVEN in an area such as Oxfordshire, many children have trouble reading, but help is at hand through a volunteering charity.

ARCh Oxfordshire helps hundreds of youngsters each year by finding volunteers to work with them in schools and help bring the joy of reading to them.

Teachers choose the children most in need of help – some have lost confidence, are shy or don't communicate well, others don't speak English at home and some just need a boost to help them catch up.

ARCh – Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire – recruits, trains and supports volunteers in primary schools through individual sessions each week with their volunteer helper.

Volunteers aim to make children feel happy reading and to think of it as something they can enjoy.

As well as reading they play word, board and memory games and draw – all things designed to help boost their confidence.

But the charity is now looking for more volunteers to help the project with training schemes on March 7 and 8 and May 9 and 10.

Volunteers are expected to help in a primary school for one-and-a-half hours twice a week – after attending two training sessions – and commit to helping at a school for a year.

ARCh is looking for volunteers to help in Oxford city – particularly the Cowley, Littlemore, Blackbird Leys areas – and in Witney, Abingdon, Didcot, Bicester and Banbury.

They are also asking companies to get involved – working in partnership with ARCh will combine staff development with community outreach, using an established training and placement programme to achieve maximum impact in terms of staff development, staff morale and community perception, all while helping youngsters read.

For more information on volunteering, go to their website: archoxfordshire.org.uk.

What a difference a book makes

AFTER a hugely enjoyable 40-year career spent in professional communications, last summer I decided to 'step off the business run mill', *writes David Jones.*

My 'retirement plan' was like all good communications – uncomplicated and unambiguous. More time spent pursuing my hobbies of watching sport, keeping fit, travelling and reading.

I deemed I would 'put a bit back into the community' through volunteering and literacy was an area where I'd always felt I could best use my skills and experience. But where should I start?

I warmed to the idea of working with an adult learning group, attracted by the thought of helping people who leave school with little or no reading and writing skills.

But if adult literacy groups offer hope of a cure for illiteracy, I couldn't help feeling that helping children to read before they leave school can actively prevent the problem – and prevention is always better than cure!

So when I learned that ARCh provide Assisted Reading for Children in more than 100 primary schools throughout my home county I knew that this was the volunteering opportunity I'd been looking for.

I was unashamedly excited by the prospect of belonging to an organisation that is dedicated to making a lasting difference to the lives of children in Oxfordshire by inspiring them to discover the joy of reading.

After completing ARCh's training support programme, I was seconded to a school in Wallingford where I was introduced to the Year Five boys who have become my Three Musketeers.

Two were 'reluctant readers' who lacked confidence while the other was said to "bark at print" and show little interest in books. In the three months we've read together, reading confidence has improved noticeably to the point where they happily read aloud in class.

The boy who barked at print – what a great book title that would make – has, to our mutual delight, read six books including a 300-page novel.

Becoming a volunteer reader is truly one of the most inspiring and rewarding things I have ever done. And to think, I never really believed the adage that our schooldays are the best time of our lives.

Thanks to ARCh – I do now!

• *David Jones helps a pupil at St Johns Primary in Wallingford to love reading*

Get In the Mood for great music

NOT many bands play a variety of music from Abba to Glenn Miller but that's exactly what you can expect from a concert in Banbury.

The John Cleveland Band is an ensemble of 16-20 talented musicians who can please most music lovers, playing music from stage, screen, pop and more.

Their warm and personal interaction with their audience, together with an excellent standard of performance, make for a great night of entertainment for all at St Mary's Church on Saturday.

Based in Hinckley, Leicestershire, the John Cleveland Band play extensively in nearby Northamptonshire and further afield, including Europe. Performances include concerts and dinner dances of a private and charitable nature.

Having started in 1976 as an extra-curricular activity at the John Cleveland College school, they evolved into an adult band and have just celebrated their 40th year.

Tickets for Eric Darlington with the John Cleveland Band are £10. They are on sale at St Mary's Box Office (01295 253329 between 9.45 and 11am, Monday to Friday), Banbury Tourist Information Centre (01295 753752), and also on 07410 550649.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and ends around 10pm.

Landlord slapped with £20,000 fine over poor housing

By Eva Astreinidou

AN OXFORD landlord has been served with a large bill after being caught running an unlicensed and poorly managed house in multiple occupation (HMO).

Asad Shazad, 37, of Cross Street, was fined £20,000 when he appeared before Oxford Magistrates' Court on Tuesday last week. Costs added another £1,695 to his bill.

An environmental health officer from Oxford City Council visited the property on Moorbank in Blackbird Leys in July last year and found the two-storey property being occupied by six people.

The house was found to be poorly maintained and the landlord had failed to take the necessary fire safety precautions that are required in an HMO.

Shazad was found guilty of four breaches of the HMO management regulations and fined £2,000 per breach, including failing to display his details in a prominent location within the property or taking the necessary fire safety precautions.

• *The property was run as an unlicensed house in multiple occupation*

He was also fined £12,000 for the operation of an unlicensed HMO.

Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, board member for planning and regulatory services at the city council, said: "I'm delighted that the courts have imposed a substantial fine in this case to deter other landlords from renting out unlicensed and unsafe properties."

Kebab team are van-tastic

THAME-BASED Atalay Kebab has beaten the competition to win a top prize at the British Kebab Awards.

The event, at a swanky ceremony in London on Sunday, awarded Turkish-born Russel Atalay the prestigious Kebab Van of the Year title.

The High Street van was founded by Russel in 1988. The business is now being run by his two sons. It was nominated by fast food enthusiast Dom Stanway-Williams, who decided to travel around the world in search for a taste better than his hometown doner kebab.

After being nominated the van received huge praise from users of the Kebab Awards website who were blown away by Atalay's lamb kebab.

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Work begins on new homes at Bretch Hill

By Samantha McGregor

WORK to build new homes at the site of a former church in Bretch Hill is set to start after a £1.44m contract was awarded.

A total of 11 new two and three-bedroom homes will be constructed at The Fairway, in Hope Close, Banbury.

The homes will be part of the council's Build! Programme, a self-build scheme to help North Oxfordshire residents get on to the housing ladder.

It comes after Cherwell District Council appointed Edgar Taylor (Buckingham) Limited to build the shared ownership homes.

The council's executive approved the contract last month.

Cherwell acquired the land from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes as part of a development agreement for the site.

It included demolition of the old Fairway Methodist Church and provision of a replacement building, which has now been completed.

Cllr John Donaldson, Cherwell's lead member for housing, said: "This land had become a large derelict site, with a disused church at the front and untended land to the rear.

"Through the Build! project we have been able to bring this land back into use; the church now once again serving members of the community, while the homes will provide affordable housing at a great location in Banbury.

"Now the works for the church are complete, we have appointed Edgar Taylor to carry out the next stage of the development. Once works are complete, we will be able to hand over these properties to their future owners who will be able to put the finishing touches and create their very own dream home."

The shared ownership homes will be sold on a 'self-finish' basis whereby buyers get a discount on the market value in return for completing the homes. This ranges from fitting bathrooms and kitchens to decorating and hanging doors and skirting board.

These homes will be built to Passivhaus standards, which includes eco measures and improved insulation to help reduce heating costs.

The development is being carried out in two phases. Phase one, which has already begun, includes the 11 building's substructure, the provision of utilities and an estate road.

The contract approved last week paves the way for the completion of the development's superstructure as part of phase two.

Sean Woodcock, Banbury Labour group leader, said: "I am very pleased with this development and look forward to it.

"The key will be insuring that property infrastructure is in place and that contributions from the developer are sufficient for what the area needs."

Fresh appeal for missing man

• *Mark Robinson*

POLICE have issued a fresh appeal for information about a man who has been missing from his Oxfordshire home since last month.

Mark Robinson, aged 53, from Crowell, in Chinnor, was last seen on Thursday, January 26, at about 7am in Chinnor Road.

He was wearing a suit and a grey overcoat and carrying a black leather shoulder bag.

He is described as white, 6ft tall, of medium build, with balding grey hair.

Mark has access to a grey Mazda 3 vehicle and may have travelled to West Yorkshire, West Midlands, Cumbria, Lancashire or Scotland.

PC Neil McGrath said Mr Robinson's family was "extremely worried for his welfare".

He said: "The force has still not been able to make contact with Mark since he went missing last month.

"We are urging motorists to keep a look out for anyone matching the description of Mark Robinson driving a grey Mazda 3.

"Mark, if you see this appeal, please make contact with Thames Valley Police so we can let your friends and family know you are safe and well."

Anyone with information about Mr Robinson should call 101.

Camera clue to raid on newsagent

• *Police would like information on the people in these CCTV images*

POLICE have released security camera images after a newsagent's flat was burgled.

Five people went into the shop in West Street, Chipping Norton, where some of the group "distracted" the owner while others crept upstairs to a flat.

They broke in and stole a safe containing cash and an undisclosed amount of money.

Police said all members of the group then left the shop.

The incident happened at about 10.30am on Monday, January 30, however, the CCTV footage has only just been released by police.

They are appealing for anyone with any information about the burglary or anyone who recognises the people shown in the image to contact PC Adam Clark.

Call 101 and quote the reference 43170029091, or alternatively ring Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Competition

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Throughout Gulliver's Easter Extravaganza, there are lots of 'eggstra' special activities planned at Gulliver's World in Warrington, Gulliver's Kingdom in Matlock Bath and Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes.

Over the four day Easter bank holiday weekend there will be some very special appearances from the Easter Bunny plus amazing entertainment for you and your little chicks. Join the Gully Gang and enjoy Easter themed competitions and entertainment on the main stage, including the Easter Bunny Parade and the ultimate in springtime fun – the Big Bunny Bounce!

Gulliver's theme parks are open daily throughout their Easter Extravaganza which runs from 1st to 23rd April*, with a super selection of rides, shows and attractions to discover, all devised for children aged two to 13.

Closing date: Friday, March 24.

Car parking is always free at Gulliver's and there is a great selection of food on offer.

For full details of opening times and to book, visit www.gulliversfun.co.uk.

Win tickets

To be in with a chance of winning a family ticket for four people to visit Gulliver's this Easter, answer this simple question.

Q: Which of these young animals isn't associated with Easter?

Bunny, Chick or Kitten?

T&Cs apply. See online entry form for details.

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to

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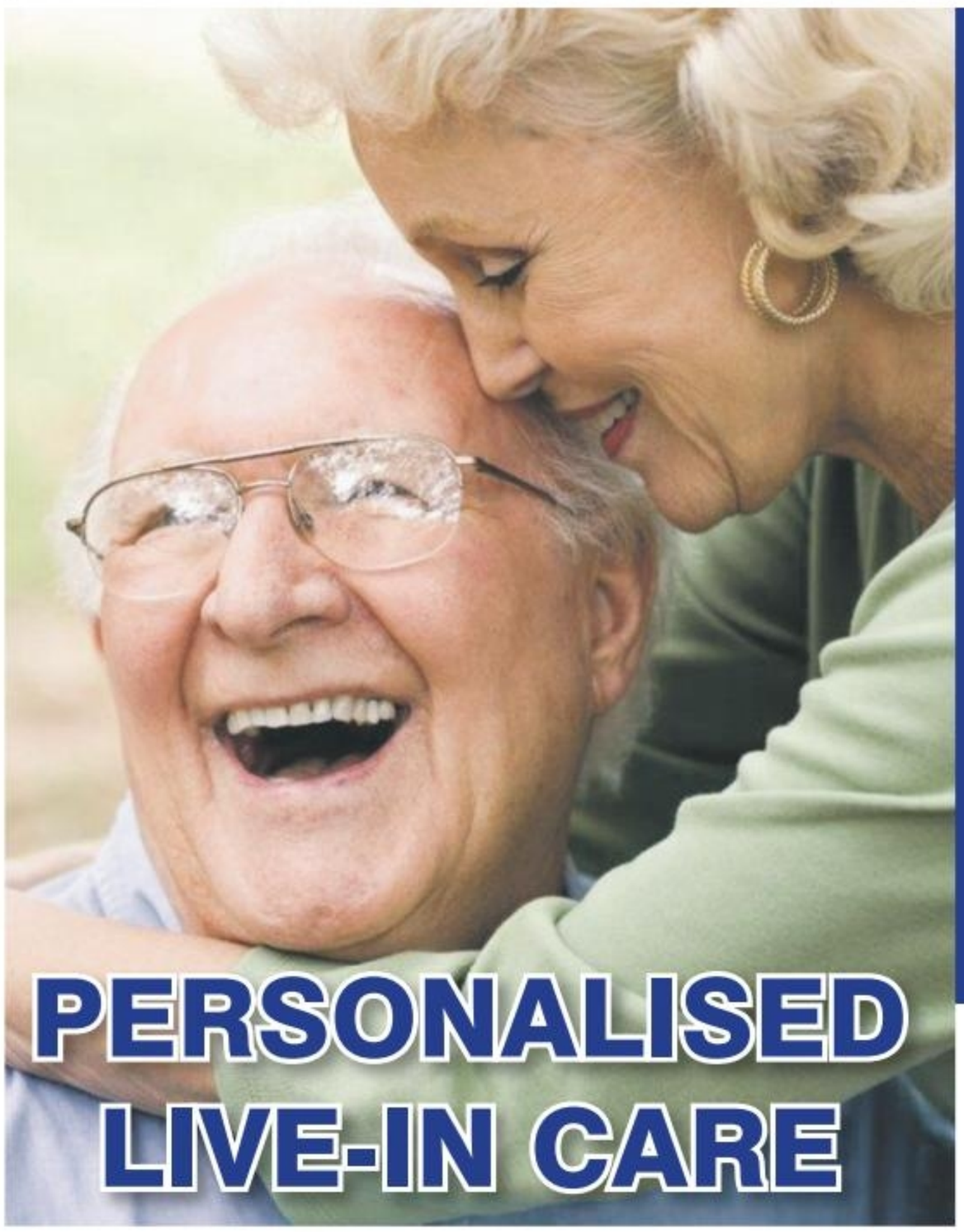

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The Japanese House

Wed 10th May • £10 adv • 6pm
The Magic Gang

Sat 13th May • £17 adv • 11pm
The Oxford Soul Train

Tue 16th May • £13.50 adv • 7pm
The Comet Is Coming
+ Flamingods

Thu 18th May • £27.50 adv • 7pm
The Mission
+ The Skeletal Family
+ Pauline Murray

Sat 20th May • £10 adv • 6.30pm
The Verve Experience: Celebrating The Twentieth Anniversary of Urban Hymns

Fri 9th Jun • £25 adv • 7pm
The Skids - 40th Anniversary Show

Sat 24th Jun • £18.50 adv • 7pm
The Inflatables
+ Roddy Radiation & The Skabilly Rebels
+ King Hammond & The Rude Boy Mafia
+ Madan Scorcher
+ Darren Bennet

Fri 29th Sep • £13 adv • 6.30pm
The Velvets: Celebrating 50 Years of The Velvet Underground

Sat 7th Oct • £13 adv • 6.30pm
The Smyths: Strangeways Here We Come Tour

Fri 27th Oct • £12 adv • 6.30pm
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Puzzles

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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

1 Over-generous (4-7)
9 Long fish (3)
10 Expedient (9)
11 Ends (5)
13 Letter (7)
14 Waterlogged (6)
16 Calm (6)
18 Unaffected (7)
19 Attacked (5)
20 Transport for the wounded (9)
21 Kind of vegetable (3)
22 Indicating dissent (4-7)

Quick Clues Down

2 Lubricate (3)
3 Snares (5)
4 Grudges (6)
5 Pause (7)
6 Makes hostile (9)
7 Emotional (11)
8 Showing deep respect (11)
12 Touchy (9)
15 Came with a crash (7)
17 Settle conclusively (6)
19 Fracture (5)
21 Peg of wood or metal (3)

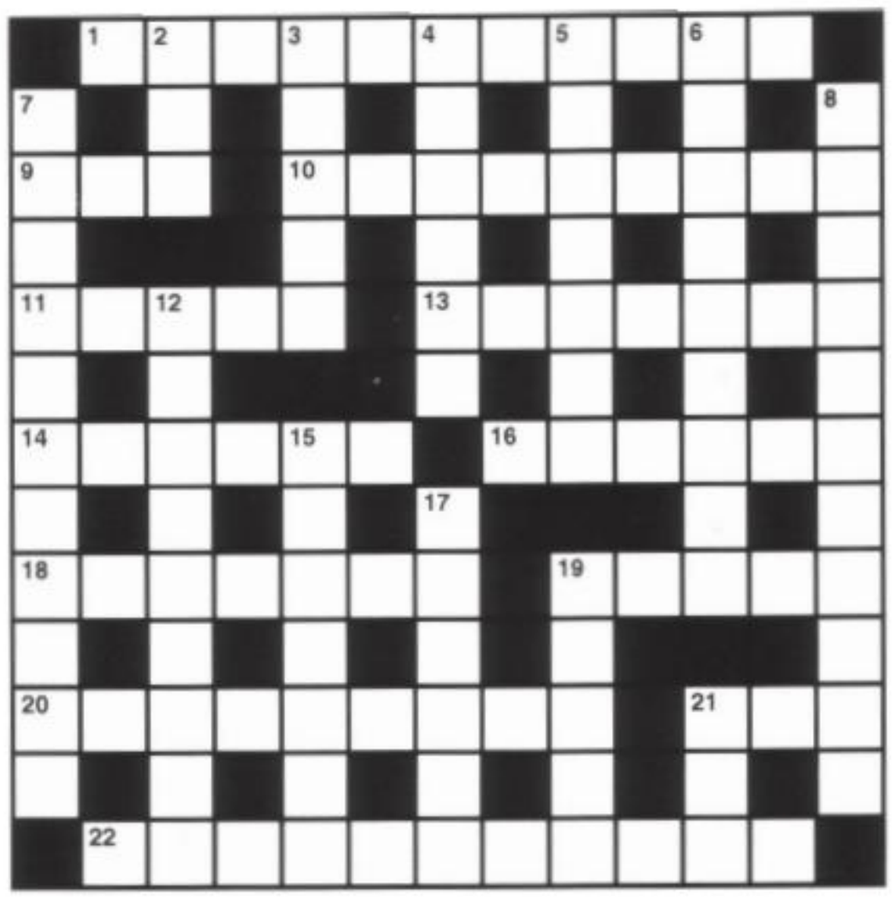
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

1 Makes a monopoly with a sound foundation (11)
9 Strikingly away from home (3)
10 Urge to disturb the giant site (9)
11 Legend has it she made her own tombstone (5)
13 Steam is the making of a French 14 (7)
14 Expert with disturbed traits (6)
16 A three-mile alliance (6)
18 I and a friend took it to copy (7)
19 French word and music (5)
20 But you won't often write music on it (9)
21 Like the other inmates of 21 down, it is said (3)
22 Strong positions for the principal card players? (11)

Cryptic Clues Down

2 To a different type of corn (3)
3 A piano is excellent for yielding sound (5)
4 It will make me sure to start again (6)
5 Sounds as if this will be prickly (7)
6 An adjacent spectacle can cause myopia (4,5)
7 Female supporters? (11)
8 It's respectful to face round the fee mixed up with the rent (11)
12 He ought to be well equipped (9)
15 Trod forcibly - nearly caused a beastly rush (7)
17 One keeps one's ear close to the place of worship (6)
19 Code for the majority round head of state (5)
21 Paid shortly about nothing for the case (3)



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Puzzles

Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

	1	9			3	6		
		8	5				4	2
	6		1	7				5
9	7	6		8	4			
	2						3	
			9	5		8	6	7
3				4	1		2	
4	8				9	5		
		1	2			7	8	

5	6		9		2		4	3
			6	4	7			
	7			5			2	
6								2
	1						9	
4								7
	9			6			1	
			3	8	5			
2	8		1		9		3	6

	2		9					
5				7			8	
	9	6	1			2		
					2		9	4
		3				6		
6	7		5					
		7			1	3	5	
	6			3				2
					8		4	

This week's solutions

7	4	9	8	2	6	5	1	3
2	6	5	4	3	1	9	7	8
1	3	8	9	7	5	6	4	2
9	1	4	6	8	2	3	5	7
8	5	2	7	1	3	4	6	9
6	7	3	5	9	4	8	2	1
4	8	7	2	5	9	1	3	6
5	9	6	1	4	7	2	8	3
3	2	1	3	6	8	7	9	4

3	6	4	9	1	2	7	5	8
1	4	9	3	8	5	6	2	7
7	9	2	6	4	8	1	3	5
4	3	9	2	5	1	8	7	6
8	1	2	7	3	6	9	5	4
6	5	8	4	9	7	3	1	2
9	7	4	8	6	3	5	4	1
5	2	1	9	7	4	6	8	3
3	8	6	5	2	9	4	7	1

5	1	9	4	2	3	6	7	8
7	3	8	5	9	6	1	4	2
2	6	4	1	7	8	3	9	5
9	7	6	3	8	4	2	5	1
8	2	5	6	1	7	4	3	9
1	4	3	9	5	2	8	6	7
3	5	7	8	4	1	9	2	6
4	8	2	7	6	5	9	1	3
6	9	1	2	3	9	5	8	4

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Soft-hearted 9 Eel 10 Advisable 11 Tails 13 Epistle 14 Marshy 17 Serene 18 Natural 19 Beset 20 Ambulance 21 Pea 22 Head-shaking

Down: 2 Oil 3 Traps 4 Envies 5 Respite 6 Embitters 7 Sentimental 8 Reverential 12 Irritable 15 Hurtled 17 Clinch 19 Break 21 Pin

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Cornerstone 9 Out 10 Instigate 11 Niobe 13 Matisse 14 Artist 16 League 18 Imitate 19 Motet 20 Notepaper 21 Pea 22 Bridgeheads

Down: 2 Oat 3 Noise 4 Resume 5 Thistle 6 Near sight 7 Foundations 8 Deferential 12 Outfitter 15 Stamped 17 Temple 19 Morse 21 Pod

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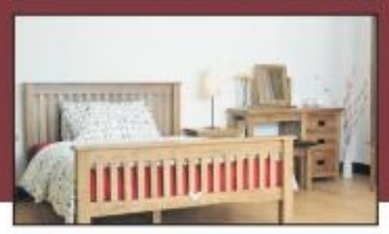

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Friday March 3rd

BBC1

Not Going Out, 9pm

10.00 Homes Under the Hammer (S) (R) **11.00 Heir Hunters** (S) **11.45 Dom on the Spot** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S) **1.00 BBC News at One; Weather** (S) **1.30 BBC Regional News and Weather** (S) **1.45 Doctors** (S) **2.15 The Coroner** (S)(R) **3.00 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **3.45 The Farmers' Country Showdown** (S) **4.30 Flog It!** (S) **5.15 Pointless** (S) **6.00 BBC News** (S) **6.30 BBC Regional News** (S)

7
- **7.00 The One Show** (S)
- **7.30 A Question of Sport** With Jonnie Peacock, Pamela Cookey, Anthony Crolla and Curtis Davies; (S)(R) BBC News (S)

8
- **8.00 EastEnders** Mick prepares for the all-important visit from the bank. (S)
- **8.30 Room 101** With Rob Delaney, Davina McCall and Laurence Fox.

9
- **9.00 Not Going Out** Lee and Lucy ponder whether to have another child. (S)
- **9.30 Tracey Ullman's Show** Camilla Duchess of Cornwall looks after Princes Charlotte. (S)

10
- **10.00 BBC News at Ten** (S)
- **10.25 BBC Regional News and Weather;** (S) National Lottery Update (S)
- **10.35 The Graham Norton Show** (S)

11
- **11.25 FILM Meet the Fockers (2004) (12)** Comedy sequel, with Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro. (S)

AFTER 12
- **1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead** (S)
- **1.20** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Only Connect, 8.30pm

6.00 The World's Most Photographed (S)(R) **6.30 Heir Hunters** (S)(R) **7.15 Sign Zone: Big Dreams Small Spaces** (S)(R) **8.15 Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships** (S) **12.00 Daily Politics** (S) **1.00 Two Tribes** (S)(R) **1.30 Beat the Brain** (S)(R) **2.00 Natural World** (S)(R) **3.00 Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships** Gabby Logan presents coverage. (S)

- **7.30 Mastermind** John Humphrys introduces the 2017 final. Last in the series. (S)
- **8.30 Only Connect** The Psmiths take on the Cosmopolitans in a quarter-final match. (S)
- **9.00 The Secrets of Your Food** The 'taming' of a bitter potato in the Peruvian Andes. (S)
- **10.00 QI** With Sue Perkins, Romesh Ranganathan and Bill Bailey. (S) (R)
- **10.30 Newsnight** (S)
- **11.00 Weather** (S)
- **11.05 Imagine: Growing Old Disgracefully: Diana Athill** (S)(R)
- **12.05 Taboo** (S)(R) **1.00** Further Back in Time for Dinner (S)(R) **2.00 FILM Genghis Khan (1965) (PG)** Historical adventure, starring Omar Sharif. (S) **4.05** Sign Zone: Birds of Paradise: The Ultimate Quest (S)(R) **5.05** Royal Recipes (S)(R) **5.45** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

Coronation Street, 7.30pm

6.00 Good Morning Britain (S) **8.30 Lorraine** (S) **9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (S) **10.30 This Morning** (S) **12.30 Loose Women** (S) **1.30 ITV Lunchtime News;** Weather (S) **1.55 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **2.00 Judge Rinder** (S) **3.00 The Home Game** (S) **3.59 ITV Regional Weather** (S) **4.00 Tipping Point** (S) **5.00 The Chase** (S) **6.00 ITV Regional News** (S) **6.30 ITV Evening News;** Weather (S)

- **7.00 Emmerdale** Charity feels she has let Sarah down. (S)
- **7.30 Coronation Street** Sinead reveals she is pregnant. (S)
- **8.00 Schofield's South African Adventure** Phillip Schofield rides a cable car to the top of Table Mountain. (S)
- **8.30 Coronation Street** (S)
- **9.00 Lethal Weapon** New series. A maverick cop is partnered with a veteran detective trying to maintain a low stress level. Action drama based on the films, starring Clayne Crawford. (S)
- **10.00 The Nightly Show with David Walliams** A lively mix of stand-up and celebrity guests. (S)
- **10.30 ITV News;** Weather (S)
- **11.00 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S)
- **11.15 Play to the Whistle** Holly Willoughby hosts the sports-based panel show. (S)(R)
- **12.15 The Nightly Show with David Walliams** (S)(R) **12.40** Jackpot247 **3.00** Storage Hoarders (S)(R) **3.50 ITV** Nightscreen

Channel 4

Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast, 8pm

8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) **9.05 Frasier** (S)(R) **10.05 Undercover Boss USA** (S)(R) **11.00 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA** (S)(R) **12.00 Channel 4 News** (S) **12.05 A New Life in the Sun** (S)(R) **1.05 Find It, Fix It, Flog It** (S)(R) **2.10 Countdown** (S) **3.00 Fifteen to One** (S) **4.00 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun** (S)(R) **5.00 Come Dine with Me** (S)(R) **6.00 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **6.30 Hollyoaks** (S)

- **7.00 Channel 4 News** (S)
- **8.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast** Award-winning comedian Jack Whitehall learns how to cook a mega-indulgent chocolate pizza. (S)(R)
- **9.00 Gogglebox** Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (S)
- **10.00 The Last Leg** With Rob Delaney and Sharon Horgan. (S)
- **11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats** With Jermaine Jenas, Denise Van Outen, Michelle Wolf and Sam Simmons. (S)
- **11.55 Rude Tube** (S)(R)
- **12.55 FILM Zero Dark Thirty (2012) (15)** Kathryn Bigelow's fact-based drama, starring Jessica Chastain. (S) **3.30** Catastrophe (S)(R) **4.00** Time Crashers (S)(R) **5.00** Four in a Bed (S)(R) **5.25** Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 5

Cruising with Jane McDonald, 9pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff 11.15 GPs: Behind Closed Doors (S)(R) **12.10 5 News Lunchtime** (S) **12.15 Ice Road Chaos: Winter Road Rescue** (S)(R) **1.15 Home and Away** (S) **1.45 Neighbours** (S) **2.20 NCIS** (S)(R) **3.20 FILM Patricia Cornwell's The Front (2010) (15)** (S) **5.00 5 News at 5** (S) **5.30 Neighbours** (S)(R) **6.00 Home and Away** (S)(R) **6.30 5 News Tonight** (S)

- **7.00 Happy Campers: Caravanning** A husband and wife enjoy a Christmas-themed weekend during the summer; (S)(R) 5 News Update (S)
- **8.00 Celebrity Carry on Barging** The quartet travel along the Llangollen Canal. Last in the series; (S) 5 News Update (S)
- **9.00 Cruising with Jane McDonald** The presenter heads to Alaska, America's largest state and home to some of the most breathtaking scenery on the planet. Last in the series. (S)
- **10.00 The Best of Bad TV: The 70s** A trawl through the programmes of the decade, featuring clips of car-crash interviews, terrifying children's dramas, hoaxes and baffling game shows. (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6
6.00 You've Been Framed! Gold **6.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? **7.15** The Ellen DeGeneres Show **8.00** Emmerdale **9.00** You've Been Framed! Gold **9.35** Psych **10.25** Scorpion **11.25** Who's Doing the Dishes? **12.25** Emmerdale **1.30** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.00** The Ellen DeGeneres Show **2.50** The Jeremy Kyle Show **5.00** Judge Rinder **6.00** You've Been Framed! Gold **7.00** You've Been Framed! Gold Full Throttle **8.00** Two and a Half Men **9.00** FILM: American Pie (1999) (15) **11.00** Family Guy **11.55** American Dad! **12.55** Two and a Half Men **1.25** Ibiza Weekender **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10
6.00 In Loving Memory **6.25** Heartbeat **7.25** Where the Heart Is **8.25** The Royal **9.25** Judge Judy **10.50** Inspector Morse **1.00** Heartbeat **2.05** The Royal **3.10** Where the Heart Is **4.15** In Loving Memory **4.50** Doctor at Large **5.20** On the Buses **5.55** Heartbeat **7.00** Murder, She Wrote **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **11.00** Prime Suspect **1.00** Wycliffe **1.55** Inspector Morse **3.50** Rory Bremner's Great British Views **4.40** On the Buses **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9
7.00 World News Today; Weather **7.30** Top of the Pops: 1983 **8.00** The Good Old Days **9.00** Better Than the Original: The Joy of the Cover Version **10.00** Ultimate Covers at the BBC **11.00** Sings the Beatles **12.00** Top of the Pops: 1983 **12.35** Better Than the Original: The Joy of the Cover Version **1.35** Ultimate Covers at the BBC **2.35** Sings the Beatles **3.35** Sounds of the 60s **3.45** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28
9.00 Rules of Engagement **10.00** Baby Daddy **11.00** Charmed **1.00** How I Met Your Mother **2.00** The Big Bang Theory **3.00** Baby Daddy **4.00** How I Met Your Mother **5.00** The Goldbergs **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Hollyoaks **7.30** Game of Clones **8.00** FILM: Men in Black 3 (2012) (PG) **10.00** Celebs Go Dating **11.05** Tattoo Fixers **12.10** The Big Bang Theory **1.05** Celebs Go Dating **2.10** First Dates **3.00** First Dates Abroad **3.50** Rules of Engagement **4.35** Charmed

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14
8.55 Car SOS **9.55** Come Dine with Me **12.35** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun **2.40** Boudica's Lost Tribe: A Time Team Special **3.50** The Somme's Secret Weapon: A Time Team Special **4.55** Great Canal Journeys **5.55** Car SOS **6.55** The Supervet **7.55** Grand Designs **9.00** The Team **10.20** 24 Hours in A&E **12.30** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **1.25** Grand Designs **2.25** 24 Hours in A&E **3.25** Food Unwrapped **3.55** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15
11.00 Stagecoach (1966) (PG) **1.25** Lord Jim (1964) (PG) **4.30** 12 Angry Men (1957) (U) **6.40** Cutthroat Island (1995) (PG) **9.00** Pitch Perfect (2012) (12) **11.15** Our Idiot Brother (2011) (15) **1.00** Bound (1996) (18) **3.20** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12
7.10 Ice Road Truckers **8.10** American Pickers **9.00** Storage Hunters **10.00** American Pickers **12.00** Top Gear **2.00** Room 101 **2.40** QI **3.20** Would I Lie to You? **4.00** Top Gear **5.00** The Best of Top Gear **6.00** Top Gear **7.00** American Pickers **8.00** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **9.00** FILM: Kill Bill: Vol 1 (2003) (18) **11.10** Mock the Week **11.50** Would I Lie to You? **12.30** QI **1.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats **1.40** The Last Man on Earth **2.05** Suits **3.00** Hoff the Record **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20
7.10 The Bill **8.00** Boon **9.00** Bergerac **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small **11.00** The Bill **1.00** As Time Goes By **1.40** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em **2.20** Birds of a Feather **3.00** Boon **4.00** Bergerac **5.00** All Creatures Great and Small **6.00** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em **6.40** Last of the Summer Wine **7.20** As Time Goes By **8.00** The Brokenwood Mysteries **10.00** New Tricks **11.20** Sharpe **1.20** Boon **2.20** Citizen Smith **3.25** Birds of a Feather **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106
6.00 Hawaii Five-0 **7.00** Road Wars **8.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Police Force: Australia **10.00** Nothing to Declare **11.00** A Town Called Eureka **12.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **1.00** Hawaii Five-0 **3.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **4.00** Futurama **4.30** Modern Family **5.30** Futurama **6.30** The Simpsons **8.30** Modern Family **9.00** Stan Lee's Lucky Man **10.00** The Blacklist **11.00** Ross Kemp on Gangs **12.00** The Force: Manchester **1.00** Road Wars **2.00** Stop, Search, Seize **3.00** Hawaii Five-0 **4.00** RSPCA Animal Rescue **5.30** Futurama

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108
6.00 Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **7.00** Fish Town **8.00** The West Wing **10.00** House **11.00** Without a Trace **1.00** Blue Bloods **2.00** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer **3.00** The West Wing **5.00** House **6.00** Without a Trace **8.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.20** Oz **2.40** Looking **4.00** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **5.00** Fish Town

W SKY: 109
6.10 Wild Things with Dominic Monaghan **7.00** MasterChef USA **8.00** My Dream Home **9.00** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **10.00** The Bill **11.00** Tipping Point **1.00** Motorway Cops: A Traffic Cops Special **2.00** MasterChef USA **3.00** Who Do You Think You Are? USA **4.00** My Dream Home **5.00** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **6.00** Tipping Point **7.00** Honey I Bought the House **8.00** MasterChef USA **9.00** Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders **10.00** EastEnders **10.45** FILM: Along Came a Spider (2001) (15) **12.40** EastEnders **1.20** Best in Town **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110
7.00 Cheers **8.00** One Foot in the Grave **8.40** The Brittas Empire **10.00** As Time Goes By **10.40** Last of the Summer Wine **12.40** My Family **1.20** Keeping Up Appearances **2.40** The Brittas Empire **4.00** Last of the Summer Wine **6.20** My Family **7.00** Keeping Up Appearances **7.40** Fawlty Towers **8.20** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** Mrs Brown's Boys **9.40** Bottom **11.00** The Mighty Boosh **12.20** The League of Gentlemen **1.35** Nathan Barley **2.05** The Armando Iannucci Shows **2.30** jam **3.00** Police Squad! **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401
6.00 Football Gold **7.00** WWE Main Event **8.00** Premier League World **8.30** Haye v Bellew: The Countdown Part One **9.00** Premier League Darts **12.00** Premier League Match Pack **12.30** Sky Sports Boxing Gold **1.30** Premier League Darts **4.30** Haye v Bellew: The Countdown Part One **5.00** Sky Sports Boxing Gold **5.30** Haye v Bellew: The Countdown Part One **6.00** The Fantasy Football Club **7.00** Live EFL. **10.15** Haye v Bellew: The Countdown Part Two **10.45** Premier League Preview **11.15** Haye v Bellew: The Countdown Part Two **11.45** Scottish Football Round-Up **12.00** Live ATP Tennis. **2.00** Premier League Preview **2.30** The Fantasy Football Club **3.30** Premier League Preview **4.00** Live ATP Tennis.

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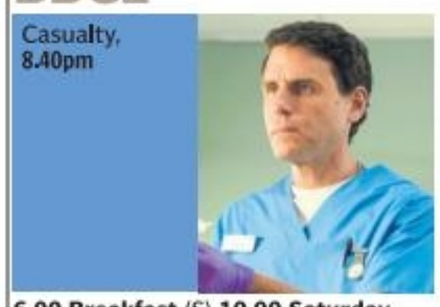

DAYTIME **6.00 Breakfast** (S) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live** (S) **11.30 Mary Berry Everyday** (S)(R) **12.00 Football Focus** (S) **1.00 News** (S) **1.15 Bargain Hunt 2.15 My Life: The Boy on the Bicycle** (S) **2.45 FILM Monsters vs Aliens (2009) (PG)** (S) **4.10 Final Score** (S) **5.10 Celebrity Mastermind** (S)(R) **5.40 News** (S) **5.50 BBC Regional News** (S) **6.00 Pointless Celebrities** (S)(R) **6.45 Let's Sing and Dance for Comic Relief**

7

8

8.00 Who Dares Wins Game show in which strangers pair up to win money. (S)
8.40 Casualty David prepares to send Ollie back to Rosa in Spain. (S)

9

9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys Agnes's children suspect one of them is adopted. (S)(R)

10

10.00 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S)
10.20 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches. (S)

11

11.45 This Country Kerry becomes a door-to-door saleswoman and Kurtan makes some new friends in the village. (S)

AFTER 12

12.10 FILM Papadopoulos & Sons (2012) (15) Comedy, starring Stephen Dillane. (S) **1.55** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **2.00** BBC News (S)

BBC2

10.00 Ireland's Wild River: The Mighty Shannon – Natural World (S)(R) **11.00 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **12.00 Two Greedy Italians: Still Hungry** (S)(R) **1.00 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo** (S)(R) **1.30 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **2.15 Mastermind** (S)(R) **3.15 University Challenge** (S)(R) **3.45 Only Connect** (S)(R) **4.15 Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships** (S)

8.15 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands Paul Murton visits the island outposts of Shetland. (S)
8.45 Dad's Army Sgt Wilson struggles to concentrate. (S)(R)

9.15 Live at the Apollo With Adam Hills, Michelle Wolf and Jamali Maddix. (S)(R)

10.00 Martin Scorsese: True Confessions (S)
10.30 FILM Mean Streets (1973) (18) Martin Scorsese's drama, with Robert De Niro and Harvey Keitel. (S)

12.20 Taboo (S)(R) **1.20** Taboo (S)(R) **2.15 FILM Witchfinder General (1968) (15)** Period horror, starring Vincent Price. (S) **3.40** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

8.30 Scrambled!: Bear Grylls Survival School (S) **9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time** (S)(R) **9.25 Alphabetical** (S)(R) **10.20 Guess This House** (S)(R) **11.20 ITV News;** Weather (S) **11.25 The Voice UK** (S)(R) **1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Doncaster** (S) **4.00 You've Been Framed!** (S)(R) **4.30 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **4.45 ITV News** (S) **5.00 FILM Despicable Me 2 (2013) (U)** (S)

7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway Robbie Williams and his wife Ayda Field take part in I'm A Celebrity Get Out of Me Ear. (S)

8.30 The Voice UK The contest switches gear once again in the first live knock-out show. (S)

9.45 ITV News; Weather (S)

10.00 Lethal Weapon Action drama, starring Clayne Crawford. (S)(R)
10.55 FILM First Blood (1982) (15) Action thriller, with Sylvester Stallone and Brian Dennehy. (S)

12.40 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

6.20 The King of Queens (S)(R) **7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **10.55 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **12.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast** (S)(R) **1.00 Come Dine with Me** (S)(R) **3.30 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun** (S)(R) **4.35 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **5.35 Grand Designs** (S)(R) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Escape to the Chateau Series following a British family that buys and restores a French chateau. (S)(R)

8.00 Penelope Keith at Her Majesty's Service The actress travels the country to visit the Queen's residences. (S)(R)

9.00 FILM The Wolverine (2013) (12) Superhero adventure spin-off, with Hugh Jackman and Tao Okamoto. (S)

11.25 FILM Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (2012) (15) Fantasy thriller, starring Benjamin Walker and Dominic Cooper. (S)

1.20 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) **2.10** Hollyoaks (S) **4.25** Building the Dream (S) **5.20** Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles The turtles must prove themselves worthy to an aquatic alien queen. (S)(R) **10.30 Access** Showbiz news and gossip. (S) **10.35 Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole** (S)(R) **1.30 Dance Moms** (S) **4.15 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door** Three disputes concerning noise levels (S)(R) **5.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away** (S)

7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles Nell goes undercover at the Department of Defence. (S)

8.00 NCIS A petty officer tries to prove he did not murder his ex-girlfriend. (S)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games. (S)

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush Goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two. (S)
10.30 Conspiracy: Pearl Harbor Cover-Up (S)

11.30 Criminals: Caught on Camera The use of CCTV to tackle motoring offences. (S)(R)

12.00 SuperCasino 3.10 Inside Windsor Castle (S)(R) **4.00** The Cars That Made Britain Great (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** Wildlife SOS (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.10** Emmerdale **8.45** Coronation Street **11.10** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **12.40** Take Me Out **1.55** The Voice UK **3.55** FILM: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009) (PG) Comedy, starring Kevin James. **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** FILM: Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009) (PG) Concluded. **5.45** FILM: Kindergarten Cop (1990) (12) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **6.45** FYI Daily **6.50** FILM: Kindergarten Cop (1990) (12) Concluded. **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** FILM: American Pie 2 (2001) (15) Comedy sequel, starring Jason Biggs. **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10** FILM: American Pie 2 (2001) (15) Concluded. **11.10** Family Guy **12.35** American Dad! **1.05** FILM: Wanted (2008) (18) Action adventure, starring James McAvoy and Angelina Jolie. **2.05** FYI Daily **2.10** FILM: Wanted (2008) (18) Concluded. **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Judge Judy **6.20** On the Buses **6.45** Murder, She Wrote **9.40** FILM: Carry On Girls (1973) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. **10.40** FYI Daily **10.45** FILM: Carry On Girls (1973) (PG) Concluded. **11.35** Lewis **1.40** Inspector Morse **3.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.00** Rosemary & Thyme **7.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Carry On Forever **12.00** Wycliffe **1.05** Marchlands **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Indian Hill Railways **8.00** She-Wolves: England's Early Queens **9.00** Follow the Money **11.00** Top of the Pops: 1983 **12.05** The Secret Science of Pop **1.05** FILM: Janis: Little Girl Blue (2015) (15) Documentary about 1960s blues singer Janis Joplin. **2.35** Queens of Soul **3.35** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rude(ish) Tube **6.20** Young & Hungry **7.05** How I Met Your Mother **8.00** Melissa & Joey **9.00** Baby Daddy **10.00** Young & Hungry **11.00** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **11.15** FILM: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) (U) Comedy, starring Zachary Levi. **1.00** The Goldbergs **2.30** Black-ish **3.00** The Big Bang Theory **5.00** FILM: Mission: Impossible (1996) (PG) Action thriller, starring Tom Cruise. **7.10** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: Red (2010) (12) Action thriller, starring Bruce Willis. **11.10** Gogglebox **12.15** Celebs Go Dating **3.20** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **4.05** Rude Tube **4.30** Rude(ish) Tube **4.50** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Come Dine with Me **11.35** Location, Location, Location **12.35** Coast vs Country **1.40** Rivers with Jeremy Paxman **2.45** Four in a Bed **5.25** Come Dine with Me **8.00** First Humans: The Cave Discovery **9.00** Iceman Murder Mystery **10.00** The Year Britain Froze **11.05** 24 Hours in A&E **12.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **2.20** Father Ted **3.25** Food Unwrapped **3.50** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Mr Popper's Penguins (2011) (PG) Family comedy, starring Jim Carrey. **1.00** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) (PG) Fantasy adventure, with Georgie Henley and Skandar Keynes. **3.10** Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World (2011) (PG) Family adventure, starring Jessica Alba. **4.55** Casper (1995) (PG) Supernatural family comedy, starring Christina Ricci. **6.55** X-Men (2000) (12) Sci-fi comic-book adventure, starring Hugh Jackman. **9.00** The Rewrite (2014) (12) Romantic comedy, with Hugh Grant and Marisa Tomei. **11.10** Stonehearst Asylum (2014) (15) Gothic horror, starring Kate Beckinsale. **1.25** Sorority Row (2009) (18) Horror remake, starring Briana Evigan. **3.35** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Deadly 60 **10.00** Top Gear **12.00** Motorway Cops **1.00** The Best of Top Gear **2.00** FILM: Dragnet (1987) (PG) Spoof crime drama, starring Dan Aykroyd and Tom Hanks. **4.00** Top Gear **7.00** Not Going Out **9.00** Mock the Week **11.00** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **12.00** QI XL **1.00** Not Going Out **1.40** The Last Man on Earth **2.10** Suits **3.00** Hoff the Record **3.30** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Tenko **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** Tenko **5.00** One Foot in the Grave **7.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **8.00** Maisie Raine **9.00** Taggart **11.00** Waking the Dead **1.20** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **2.20** Catherine Cookson's Tilly Trotter **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Are You Smarter Than a 10 Year Old? **7.00** Futurama **7.50** The Big Spell **8.45** The Fantasy Football Club **9.45** Soccer AM **11.30** Live Premier League. Pre-match build-up to Manchester United v Bournemouth. **12.30** Football's Funniest Moments **1.00** Portrait Artis of the Year 2017 **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday. Up-to-the-minute scores. **5.15** Supergirl **6.15** The Flash **7.15** MacGyver **8.15** FILM: Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones (2002) (PG) Sci-fi adventure prequel, with Ewan McGregor. **11.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **12.00** Duck Quacks Don't Echo **1.00** A League of Their Own: Unseen **2.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **2.50** Police Force: Australia **5.05** Futurama

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** David Attenborough's Kingdom of Plants **2.00** Making of David Attenborough Kingdom of Plants **3.00** Without a Trace **8.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.20** Last Week Tonigl with John Oliver **11.55** Real Time with Bill Maher **1.05** High Maintenance **1.40** The Wire **3.00** Without a Trace **4.00** The Guest Wing

W SKY: 109

7.00 The Bill **12.00** EastEnders **2.40** Heston's Fantastical Food **3.40** FILM: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) (PG) Children's fantasy, starring Johnny Depp. **6.00** My Family **8.00** Inside the Ambulance **9.0** FILM: Kiss the Girls (1997) (18) **11.15** Grimm **12.15** Outnumbered **1.30** Best in Town **2.15** Almost Human **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **9.00** Blandings **9.40** Only Fools and Horses **10.20** Last of the Summer Wine **12.20** Boomers **1.00** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** The Trip to Italy **11.00** Bottom **2.25** FILM: Bill Hicks: Sane Man (1989) (18) Stand-up performance recorded in Texas i 1989. **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Haye v Bellew: The Knockouts **6.30** Haye v Belle Behind the Ropes Part One **7.00** Haye v Bellew: Behin the Ropes Part Two **7.30** Haye v Bellew: The Countdow Part One **8.30** Haye v Bellew: The Countdown Part Two **9.30** Premier League Preview **9.45** Soccer AM **11.30** Live Premier League. Manchester United v Bournemouth (kick-off 12.30pm). **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday **5.15** Live EFL. Huddersfield Town v Newcastl United (kick-off 5.30pm). **8.00** EFL Goals **8.30** Nissan Game of the Day **10.30** Nissan Match Choice **11.30** Premier League Highlights

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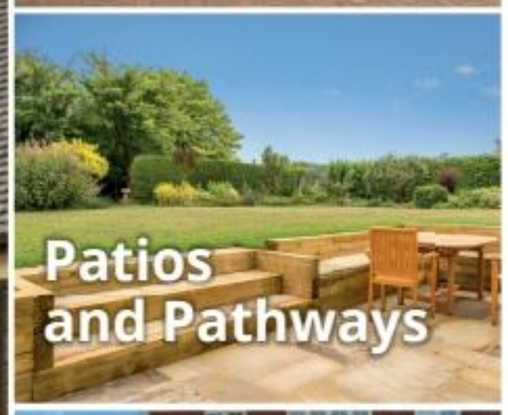

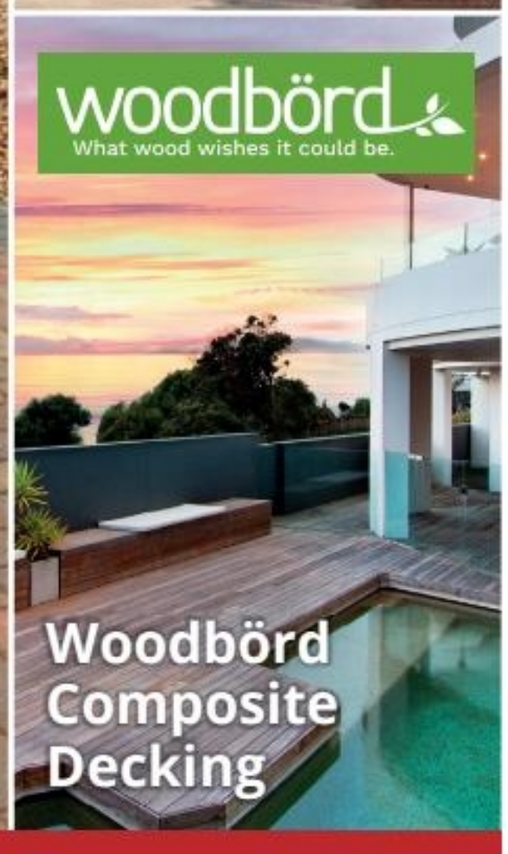

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Sunday March 5th

BBC1

Call the Midwife, 8pm

9.00 The Andrew Marr Show (S) **10.00 The Big Questions** (S) **11.00 Sunday Politics** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **2.15 Flog It!** (S)(R) **3.15 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **4.00 Songs of Praise** (S) **4.35 Shop Well for Less?** (S)(R) **5.35 BBC News** (S) **5.50 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **6.00 The Big Painting Challenge** (S)

7.00 **Countryfile** The team explores the South Downs. (S)

8.00 **Call the Midwife** Dr Turner helps a couple whose daughter was born without limbs to have her fitted for prosthetics. (S)

9.00 **SS-GB** Archer tracks down Spode, who confesses to murdering his brother. (S)

10.00 **BBC News** (S)
10.20 **BBC Regional News; Weather** (S)
10.30 **Match of the Day 2** Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action. (S)

11.35 **American High School** A student with his own business suffers a devastating setback. (S)

AFTER 12

12.20 The Celebrity Apprentice USA (S) **1.45** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.50** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week, 9pm

6.30 A to Z of TV Gardening (S)(R) **7.15 An Island Parish** (S)(R) **7.45 Around the World in 80 Gardens** (S)(R) **8.45 Countryfile** (S)(R) **9.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S) **11.15 Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day** (S)(R) **11.45 Nigellissima** (S)(R) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra** (S) **1.00 Triathlon** (S) **2.30 Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships** Gabby Logan presents coverage of the third and final day. (S)

7.00 **Robot Wars** New series. Dara Ó Briain and Angela Scanlon present the first group heat. With commentary by Jonathan Pearce. (S)

8.00 **Top Gear** New series. Chris Harris test-drives the Ferrari FXXK at the Daytona circuit. (S)

9.00 **Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week** The final challenge involves the Australian Special Air Service Regiment. Last in the series. (S)

10.00 **FILM** **London Road (2015) (15)** Premiere. Fact-based musical, starring Olivia Colman and Tom Hardy. (S)

11.30 **FILM** **Papillon (1973) (15)** Fact-based drama, starring Steve McQueen and Dustin Hoffman. (S)

1.55 Taboo (S)(R) **2.55** Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) **3.55 Holby City** (S)(R) **4.50** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

The Good Karma Hospital, 9pm

9.30 Countrywise: Guide to Britain (S)(R) **10.00 Peston on Sunday** (S) **10.55 Gino's Italian Escape: Hidden Italy** (S)(R) **11.25 Chopping Block** (S)(R) **12.25 Who's Doing the Dishes?** (S)(R) **1.30 News 1.35 The Voice UK** (S)(R) **2.50 Little Big Shots** (S)(R) **3.50 The Chase** (S)(R) **4.50 Tipping Point** (S)(R) **5.50 ITV Regional News** (S) **6.00 News** (S) **6.15 Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule** (S)(R) **6.40 Five Gold Rings** (S)

7.45 **The Voice UK** The second live knockout show. (S)

9.00 **The Good Karma Hospital** Lydia and Ruby visit a convent to make a seemingly miraculous diagnosis. (S)

10.00 **ITV News;** Weather (S)
10.20 **The Nightly Show Best Bits** New series. Highlights from the previous week. (S)
10.50 **Peston on Sunday** Political magazine. (S)(R)

11.50 **Premiership Rugby Union** Action from the 17th round of fixtures.

12.40 Jackpot247 3.00 Chopping Block (S)(R) **3.50 ITV Nightscreen 5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4

Homeland, 9pm

6.15 The King of Queens (S)(R) **7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.25 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.30 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **2.00 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces** (S)(R) **3.00 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **4.00 Channel 4 News** (S) **4.30** **FILM** **Fantastic Four (2005) (PG)** Sci-fi comic-book adventure, starring Ioan Gruffudd. (S) **6.30 The Jump** (S)

8.00 **Rivers with Jeremy Paxman** The presenter explores the River Severn, exploring the largest ship graveyard in the country. (S)

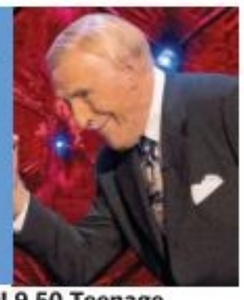
9.00 **Homeland** Carrie follows a lead, and Keane takes a stand. Starring Claire Danes, Rupert Friend and Mandy Patinkin. (S)

10.00 **Gogglebox** Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (S)(R)

11.00 **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown** Jimmy Carr hosts the words-and-numbers quiz. (S)(R)

12.00 **FILM** **Broken City (2013) (15)** Crime thriller, with Mark Wahlberg and Russell Crowe. (S) **2.00** The Last Leg (S)(R) **2.55** Under Lock and Key (S)(R) **3.50** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (S)(R) **4.45** Kirstie's Vintage Gems (S)(R) **5.05** Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 5


The Bruce Forsyth Story: From the Palladium to the Palace, 9pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.50 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.25 Football on 5: The Championship** (S)(R) **11.20 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **11.50** **FILM** **The Fifth Element (1997) (PG)** (S) **2.10** **FILM** **Spies Like Us (1985) (PG)** (S) **4.10 Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh** (S)(R) **5.10 Cruising with Jane McDonald** (S)(R) **6.05 Inside Windsor Castle** (S)(R)

7.00 **Inside Windsor Castle** A look back at the series of events that shaped the monarchy between 1936 and 1952. (S)(R)

8.00 **Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords** New series. Cases include a woman with rental arrears of almost £3,000. (S)
8.55 **5 News Weekend** (S)

9.00 **The Bruce Forsyth Story: From the Palladium to the Palace** New series. A look back at the entertainer's 75 years in showbiz. (S)

10.30 **An Audience with Bruce Forsyth** The versatile veteran entertainer reveals his many talents in a feast of song and dance before a VIP audience. (S)(R)

11.35 **Bruce Forsyth's Comedy Heroes** (S)(R)

12.35 Peter Kay: The Early Years (S)(R) **12.55** SuperCasino **3.10** Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh (S)(R) **4.00** When Kids Kill: Catfish Killer (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** Wildlife SOS (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 The Hot Desk: Jonas Blue **6.10** You've Been Framed! Gold **6.35** Emmerdale **9.10** Coronation Street **11.45** The Voice UK **1.00** 2Awesome: 2Awesome **1.05** 2Awesome: Guidance **1.40** 2Awesome: Fame High **2.05** 2Awesome: Third Wheel **2.30** 2Awesome: LA Story **2.50** You've Been Framed! Gold: Top 100 Holidays **3.50** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **5.25** FILM: King Kong (2005) (12) Fantasy adventure remake, starring Naomi Watts. **6.25** FYI Daily **6.30** FILM: King Kong (2005) (12) Concluded. **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.25** Ibiza Weekender **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 On the Buses **6.25** Sherlock Holmes: The Last Vampyre **8.30** Heartbeat **10.35** Murder, She Wrote **12.45** FILM: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) Comedy, starring Alastair Sim. **1.45** FYI Daily **1.50** FILM: The Belles of St Trinian's (1954) (U) Concluded. **2.35** Inspector Morse **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.55** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Carry On Forever **11.05** FILM: Carry On Camping (1969) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. **12.05** FYI Daily **12.10** FILM: Carry On Camping (1969) (PG) Concluded. **12.55** Inspector Morse **2.45** Wycliffe **3.40** May the Best House Win **5.25** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Sound of Song. Neil Brand charts how music was transformed by the arrival of digital technology and the computer as his exploration of great songs reaches the modern era. Last in the series. **8.00** Kiri Te Kanawa at the BBC. Highlights of the soprano's career, combining documentary footage and chat show appearances with performances including the Royal Opera's production of Puccini's Manon. **9.00** FILM: The Hunt (2012) (15) Premiere. Drama, starring Mads Mikkelsen. **10.50** Sound Waves: The Symphony of Physics **11.50** Every Breath We Take: Understanding Our Atmosphere **12.50** Timeshift: Hurricanes and Heatwaves – The Highs and Lows of British Weather **1.45** Mumbai High: The Musical **2.50** Kiri Te Kanawa at the BBC **3.50** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rude(ish) Tube **6.20** How I Met Your Mother **7.05** Melissa & Joey **8.00** Baby Daddy **9.00** Black-ish **9.30** Hollyoaks **12.00** The Jump **1.40** FILM: Step Up (2006) (PG) Romantic dance drama, with Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan. **3.40** The Goldbergs **5.05** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** FILM: Unstoppable (2010) (12) Tony Scott's action thriller, with Denzel Washington and Chris Pine. **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** FILM: The Grey (2011) (15) Wilderness adventure, starring Liam Neeson. **12.15** Celebs Go Dating **2.20** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.05** Gap Year **3.55** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Coast vs Country **10.00** Building the Dream **11.00** Vet on the Hill **12.00** Come Dine with Me **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.20** Come Dine with Me **8.00** Nazi Megastructures **9.00** Father Ted **10.05** Man Down **11.05** 24 Hours in A&E **12.10** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **1.15** Man Down **2.15** Nazi Megastructures **3.15** Food Unwrapped **3.45** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The First Film (2015) (PG) Premiere. Documentary about the world's earliest surviving film. **1.25** Hugo (2011) (U) Family adventure, starring Asa Butterfield. **3.50** Carry On Behind (1975) (PG) Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams. **5.35** Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012) (U) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Ray Romano. **7.15** Johnny English (2003) (PG) Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. **9.00** Mr Turner (2014) (12) Mike Leigh's biopic of the artist, starring Timothy Spall. **11.55** Cheap Thrills (2013) (15) Comedy thriller, starring Pat Healy. **1.40** Wrong Turn at Tahoe (2009) (18) **3.30** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.20 Top Gear **9.50** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **10.40** Traffic Cops **11.40** Jay Leno's Garage **1.45** Top Gear **3.50** Red Bull Soapbox Race **5.20** Top Gear **8.00** Traffic Cops **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Suits **11.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **12.00** Crackanory **12.30** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **1.30** Suits **2.20** Parks and Recreation **3.35** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.00 Last Tango in Halifax **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Mansfield Park **3.40** Catherine Cookson's Tilly Trotter **8.00** New Tricks **9.00** Silent Witness **11.10** Spooks **1.50** Catherine Cookson's Tilly Trotter **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Futurama **9.05** Supergirl **10.00** The Flash **11.00** Futurama **11.30** WWE Raw Hits **12.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Pre-match build-up to Tottenham Hotspur v Everton. **1.30** Modern Family **6.00** The Simpsons **9.00** Hawaii Five-0 **10.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **11.00** MacGyver **12.00** The Force: Essex **1.00** Air Ambulance ER **2.00** Arrow **2.50** Police Force: Australia **5.15** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** Without a Trace **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** The Circus: Inside the Greatest Political Show on Earth **11.00** Fortitude **12.00** Billions **1.10** True Detective **2.45** The Wire **4.10** Networks of Power with Sir Christopher Meyer

W SKY: 109

6.10 Wild Things with Dominic Monaghan **7.10** Your Home in Their Hands **8.30** James Martin: Yorkshire's Finest **9.00** MasterChef USA **1.00** Dynamo: Magician Impossible **2.00** Doctor Who **4.00** My Family **6.00** Outnumbered **8.00** Honey I Bought the House **9.00** John Bishop: In Conversation with Freddie Flintoff **10.00** Jonathan Creek **11.20** Code Black **12.20** Outnumbered **1.00** Bondi Rescue **1.30** Almost Human **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **8.00** Only Fools and Horses **12.00** Boomers **12.35** Only Fools and Horses **9.00** The Trip to Italy **11.00** The Thick of It **1.00** Limmy's Show **2.15** House of Fools **3.20** Nighty Night **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights **9.00** The Sunday Supplement **10.30** Goals on Sunday **12.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Tottenham Hotspur v Everton (kick-off 1.30pm). **3.30** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Sunderland v Manchester City (kick-off 4.00pm). **7.00** EFL Goals **7.30** Spanish Football Gold **7.40** Live La Liga Football. Athletic Bilbao v Malaga (kick-off 7.45pm). **9.40** Spanish Football Gold **10.00** Premier League Highlights **11.00** Goals on Sunday **12.00** Premier League Highlights **1.00** Sky Sports Boxing Gold **2.00** Premier League Highlights **3.00** Legends of the Premier League **3.30** Premier League Legends **4.00** Premier League Highlights **5.00** Premier League 100 Club **5.30** Spanish Football Gold

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North Devon & Exmoor: Ilfracombe
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5 Days: £319

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Cosy Breaks in the English Riviera: Paignton
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4 Days: £235

Paignton is a lovely seaside resort with a level esplanade leading to a small harbour, and there are fine view over Torbay with its vivid blue sea and sky. This tour also includes a choice of either a visit to Tavistock, an attractive town with an ancient indoor Pannier Market, or Morwellham Quay a 'lost' Victorian village.

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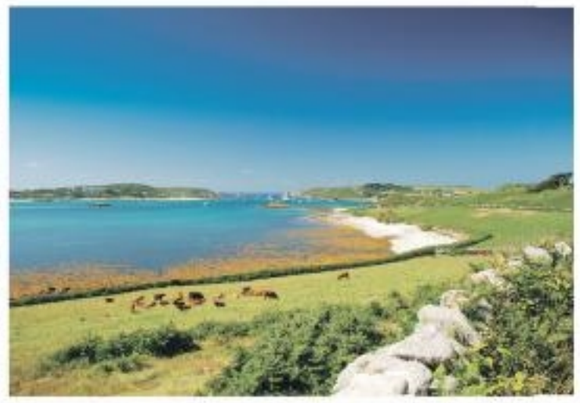

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Pembrokeshire: Tenby
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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

EastEnders actor a late developer

By James Richings

FROM villain to down-to-earth dad, Larry Lamb has played a real mix of characters.

The 69-year-old is probably best known for portraying the evil Archie Mitchell on EastEnders and Mick in Gavin & Stacey, and will be sharing his story when he arrives at The Beacon in Wantage on Friday, March 10.

But instead of telling the Portway audience what he thinks they want to hear, Larry comes to Oxfordshire with a different approach.

"My life has had an extraordinary range of facets," he said.

"So the evening depends on what people really want to know because I'm going to base the night on questions that I want the audience to ask me.

"I've spent a lot of time answering people's questions and I find it a more direct approach in connecting with them.

"For about 50 years I've found my way living around the world doing what I do and other things that I did before – there's a lot to talk about."

Some things though will be off limits: "Obviously, I'll be a bit worried if they want to know too much about me but I wrote a book about my life in 2010 which came out in 2011.

"I exposed as much of my personal life as I can – so if they want to know stuff that's really personal, they should read the book."

Larry will talk about life before the world of entertainment – from working in the waste paper business, to being an unsuccessful salesman, then a construction worker before working in the oil business. But it was one day in Canada in his late 20s/early 30s that changed his life.

He also advised any aspiring actor to 'have a second string to their bow', as he believes the world is 'over populated with actors'.

"I certainly didn't want to go into acting when I was a kid," Larry told the Guardian.

"Somebody suggested to me that I should be an actor but I had never really thought about it before to be honest with you.

"I had no ambition to be one.

"But this person took me to an amateur theatre group where I decided to have a go. I found out it was something that I liked, so it gradually became a hobby.

"So it was through amateur theatre that I got involved in the entertainment business."

He added: "I think the important thing to remember is that you can love and enjoy acting without doing it for a living.

"But if you figure out that being an actor is what you want to do for a job, you better be aware that probably 90 per cent of actors are unemployed at any one time, anywhere in the world.

"The entertainment business should come with a great big warning sign on it – it's not for the faint hearted."

Tickets cost £16 and it starts at 8pm.

Anything but the Blues

One of Reading's most popular cover bands will be gigging in Oxford next week.

Jukes Blues, who first formed in 2008, will perform at The White House on Abingdon Road on Saturday, March 11, where they'll showcase some of the finest blues tunes from years gone by.

The five-piece will also show off some of their self-penned tracks and hope their debut gig at the venue will go down a storm.

When discussing the band's name, keyboardist George Darling said, "The band's name is meant to convey that while the blues underpins what we do we have broad tastes in music.

"We don't want to be pigeonholed too much, hence the allusion to the variation you might find in a jukebox.

Jukes Blues are made up of vocalist Laura Jones, George Darling on the keyboards, guitarist Mike Bishop, Chris Curtis on the bass and drummer Mike Goff.

"You could say that three of the band (Mike B, Mike G and Chris) are full-time musicians since they have all retired from the day job," George jokingly told the Guardian.

"But Laura and myself aren't.

"Laura is a manager in the retail part of Oxfam, and I'm a geoscientist with the Natural Environment Research Council."

The free gig starts at 9pm.

ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Fred just wants to be human

By James Richings

FRED is just like you and me – he has legs, arms and feelings but is constantly faced with bigotry from humans.

But Fred the puppet has plans to end the prejudice when Meet Fred comes to the Old Fire Station in Oxford on Thursday, March 9.

Performed by the Hijinx Theatre Company, the production comes to the George Street venue as part of a small tour across the UK, after it's successful spell at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival last year.

And unlike many shows, Hijinx have hired actors with disabilities.

"We are an inclusive theatre company so therefore all our productions include learning disabled performers," artistic director Ben Pettitt-Wade told the Guardian.

"To support this we have a network of academies throughout Wales that train our performers in all sorts of skills to help them become professional performers.

"We develop all our shows in collaboration with the students on our academies."

Ben explained the production: "We focus on a guy called Fred who is a puppet and we look at the difficulties he faces in life because of that.

"It is also about who has control and power over Fred's life.

"We play with the parallel of the relationship Fred has with his puppeteers, in needing them simply to function, and the relationship many people with learning disability have with support workers which help them to live more independent lives.

"We then explore what can happen if this support is taken away, as it has been recently from many disabled people as their support packages have been cut back."

The story was a big hit at the Fringe last summer with many empathizing with Fred, despite the protagonist not even being a human.

And despite the puppeteers being clearly visible when Fred is on stage, Ben has no doubt that the Oxford audience will ignore them, and look at Fred as his own person.

"To be honest with you, the audience are very quick to recognise Fred in his own right, and feel a genuine empathy for him as he faces his struggles," he said.

"If they did not believe in him they would not feel that empathy.

"That said, puppetry is an extremely hard skill to master and we worked extremely hard during rehearsals to get it to the level it is at, to ensure that Fred was as much a part of the cast as the other actors."

He added: "I hope the audience come away having had a great evening having laughed a lot, but also having learnt something about how difficult life can be if the vital support you need is taken from you.

"I hope they leave a little bit angry about that.

Tickets cost £15 and it starts at 7.45pm.

Meet Fred is suitable for over 14s.

Putting the X Factor into Saturday night

MUSIC: Former X Factor winner Sam Bailey will be gigging at the New Theatre on Saturday.

The 39-year-old, who won the talent show in 2013, arrives at the George Street venue to perform tracks off her upcoming album Sing My Heart Out.

Tickets cost from £7.40 to £32.40.

Return visit for Vant

MUSIC: Indie rock band Vant will return to gig in Oxford on Sunday..

The four-piece will perform at the O2 Academy, 16 months after their set at the Bullingdon.

Vant will showcase tracks off their debut album Dumb Blood, which was released last month.

Doors open at 7pm and tickets cost £12.37.

Family fun flick

FILM: The latest Disney animated movie will be screened at The Beacon in Wantage on Saturday.

Moana, which stars Dwayne Johnson and Nicole Scherzinger, focuses on the title character who has been chosen to save the people on her island, which has recently been cursed.

Tickets £3, starts at 11am.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Stornoway set to bow out

By James Richings

IT will be the end of an era when Stornoway gig at the New Theatre.

The four-piece alternative indie folk group from Oxford will conclude their farewell UK tour at the George Street venue next Sunday in front of what is expected to be a packed crowd.

So to give the group the perfect send off, keyboardist Jon Ouin revealed that the band didn't compile their final set list.

"We actually had a vote amongst our fans as to which of our songs they wanted us to play," Jon told the Guardian.

"So in terms of songs, they'll know roughly what to expect, but we're also aiming to pull the stops out in various other top secret ways and go out with a bang.

"And don't forget, it will be our last ever gig, so we will attempt to make it into a proper celebration of a decade we've had playing together."

Named after the town on the Isle of Lewis, Stornoway were formed after guitarist, lyricist and lead singer Brian Briggs met Jon at an Oxford college in the mid-2000s.

Originally focusing on their post graduate courses, Brian decided to share some of his self-penned tunes to Jon, who also had a mutual like for folk music. The two got together and were joined by brothers Oli (bass) and Rob (drums) Steadman.

Stornoway, from left, Oli Steadman, Brian Briggs, Rob Steadman and Jon Ouin

After a number of gigs at small clubs around the city, their first major taste of success was in March 2006, when a demo version of I Saw You Blink was played on BBC Oxford Introducing.

But it wasn't until 2009 when Stornoway became a well-known name.

They had sets at Radio 1's Big Weekend, Glastonbury and on Later...with Jools Holland, where they became the first unsigned band to appear on the show alongside Jay Z, Sting and The Foo Fighters.

Jon said: "We are proud of what we've done as a band, the gigs we've played and the albums and recordings we've made, but nowadays it just so happens that we're all leading very separate lives in different places now.

"Also, more to the point, we fundamentally loathe each other."

The concert will take place on Sunday, March 12 and tickets cost £22.15 to £27.15.

It starts at 7.30pm.

Expect some bad attitude at the O2

STOCKPORT-based band Dutch Uncles have continued with their tradition of releasing an album every two years.

Big Balloon, their fifth album in eight years, came out last month and they'll showcase the tunes at their debut gig at the O2 Academy on Wednesday, March 8 – their first gig in the city since their previous record, O Shudder, came out in 2015.

And with each album having a different sound, lead singer and pianist Duncan Wallis admitted he wasn't sure what genre his music is.

"That's your (the listener's) call to make," he said.

He added: "On the night, expect 18 slices of bad attitude. We're digging up some of the last few surprises from our back catalogue that have either gathered dust or never even been touched.

"So to anyone that's seen us in the last few years and feels familiar with some of our album tracks, there will even be something new for them too.

"On the whole though, we're trying to compliment the new record with our other choices and it's shaping up just lovely."

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Isuzu D-Max Arctic Truck AT35

Isuzu pick-up takes it to D-Max

By **Tony Yates**

FOR this week's review – I have decided to do a bit of Arctic Exploring – because the car I am testing is the Isuzu D-Max Arctic pick-up truck which is a vehicle festooned with large wheels, Botox bodywork and an engine that would if required, move the Polar Ice-Caps.

So, to keep things simple, I will refrain from going to the North or South Pole and instead drive a truck that was designed to work in an extreme environment around the county of Staffordshire while blocking all the roads and causing total havoc as I try to park something the size of a 747 in a little town called Uttoxeter.

POWER AND EFFICIENCY

The D-Max is powered by a 2.5 litre twin turbo diesel engine that has 160PS and 400Nm of torque. I won't go into too much detail regarding performance – as the D-Max is not about performance – it's about being a workhorse. But for those of you who want to know; Max speed comes in around 111mph and on the combined cycle - I was able to achieve 38mpg.

ON THE ROAD

Here, I think we should focus mainly on the D-Max's off-road abilities – so I shall start with that. I have a friend who owns a farm – and he had kindly let me use some of its muddy paths to see how it would fair compared to his Land Rover. Well, I have to say – the D-Max was pretty faultless really. But then again, that's mainly thanks to those large wheels which help improve the ride height massively. That raised ride height also means it will pretty much clamber over anything in its path.

Also, I always take a pre set route that can sometimes take me up to 200miles away from my starting point which is a good test to find out how the vehicle faired on normal roads as well as motorways. Well, I am happy to say it did a great job, apart from those massive tyres' which do seem to make a lot of road noise. But, to be fair, the D-Max was actually a decent ride on normal roads. Although, the suspension was quite firm – but then I suppose it has to be because of what the D-Max was originally designed to do.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Inside was also kitted out very well, and here are some of the features you can expect to get as standard on the 'Arctic version' including; ABS + ESC, front, side & curtain airbags, height-adjustable front seatbelts, security-etched glass, Insurance-approved immobiliser, remote central locking, rear parking distance sensors, RDS radio/single CD with iPod®/USB/Bluetooth® connectivity, Six speakers which include 2 'Exciter' roof mounted speakers. Along with heated front screen, seats, steering wheel audio controls, cruise control and a Premium Black Leather Interior.

TO SUM UP

I really was impressed by the D-Max, yes it may look like a pick-up on Botox –but I'm telling you now – the D-Max is a decent buy.

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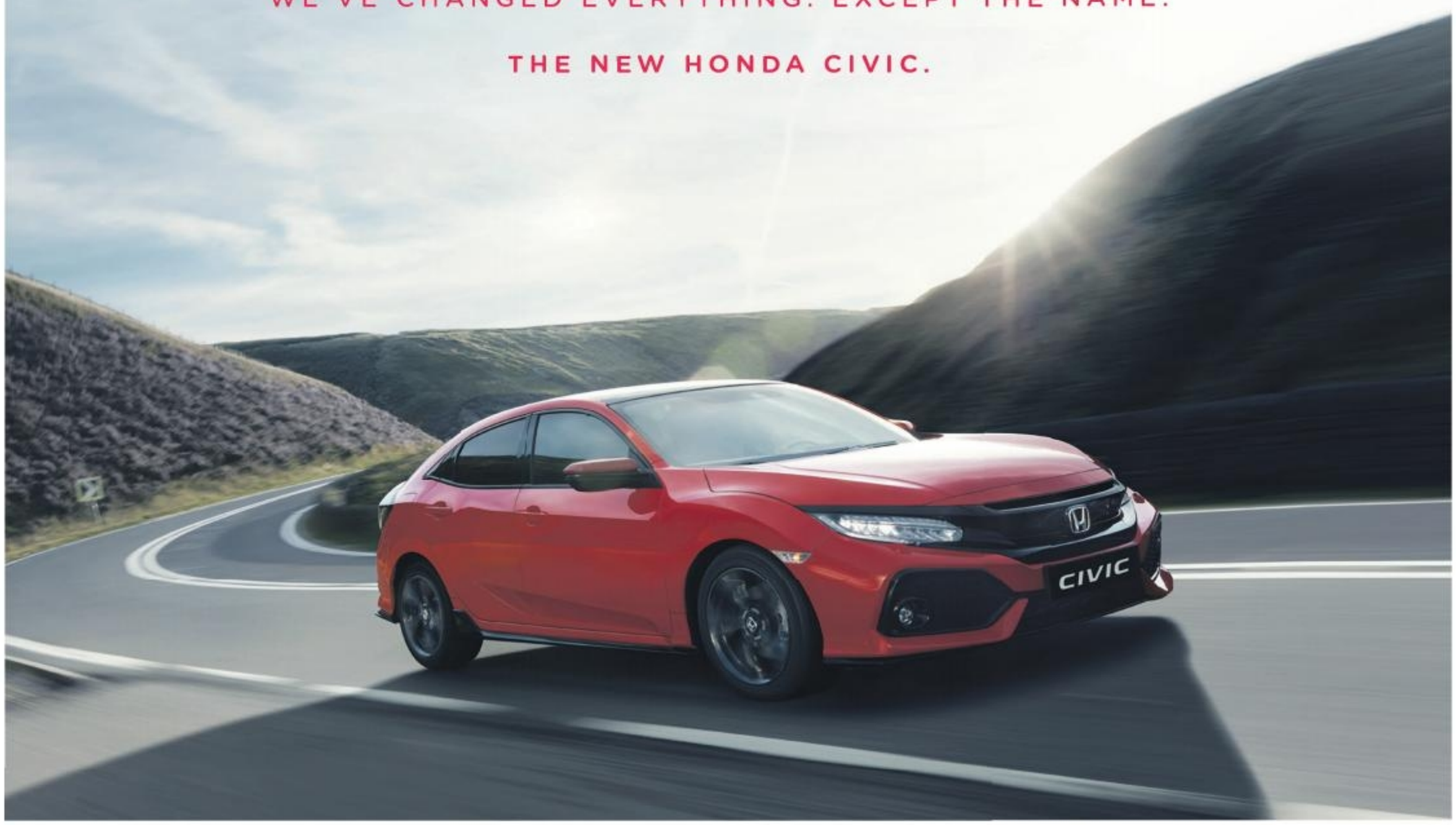

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The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results. Retail sales only, subject to availability for vehicles registered between 01.01.17 and 31.03.17 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% APR Representative Mazda Personal Contract Purchase available on all Mazda2 and 2017 Mazda3 models. Finance subject to status, 18s or over. Guarantee may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 1SR. Model shown: Mazda2 75ps SE, OTR from £12,595. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£660). 2017 Mazda3 120ps SE, OTR from £17,795. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£670). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. °Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. Calls to 0844/0845 numbers will be charged at 7 pence per minute plus your standard network charge. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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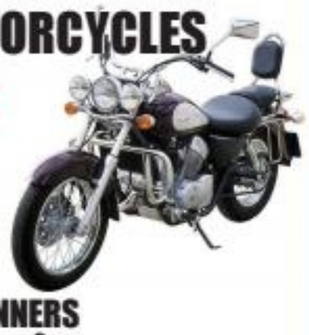

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HSL your chair specialists

We're recruiting for Sales Assistants for our Oxford Comfort Store.

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We're recruiting for Sales Assistants for our HSL store in Oxford. Various shift patterns are available.

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- You ideally (but not essentially) have retail experience.
- You have a belief in and an ability to offer advice and deliver no-pressure sales.
- You're passionate about customer service.
- You're a people person – and enjoy engaging with people of all ages and backgrounds.
- You work well as part of a team.
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- Help us create a stimulating, helpful, enjoyable and knowledgeable store environment.

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HSL, 165-167 Lamarsh Road, off Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0PB
Tel: 01924 507050 www.hslchairs.com

For Sale

BED room dress table white 150cm x 70cm six draws 3 on each side. As new. Cost £200 bargain £50 01844 237820

MENS classic knee length black coat. Size XXL. Excellent condition £60 ono 01491 835141

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ELECTRIC "Epilacire", warm wax for hair removal. £10. Tel. 01865 554137

PAIR mans shoes, new, boxed, size 91/2, black £5. Tel. 01491 838988

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27th March - 31st March	£139	8th May - 12 May	£162
3rd April - 7th April	£145	15th May - 19th May	£164
10th April - 14th April	£149	22nd May - 26th May	£164
17th April - 21st April	£149	29th May - 2nd June	£164

5 Night Breaks

4th June - 9th June	£212	9th July - 14th July	£242
11th June - 17th June	£218	16th July - 21st July	£262
18th June - 23rd June	£222	23rd July - 28 July	£262
25th June - 30th June	£242	30th July - 4th Aug	£268
2nd July - 7th July	£242	6th Aug - 11th Aug	£268

6 Night Breaks

18th Mar - 24th Mar	£209	22nd April - 28th April	£215
25th Mar - 3th Mar	£209	29th April - 5th May	£222
1st April - 7th April	£209	6th May - 12th May	£224
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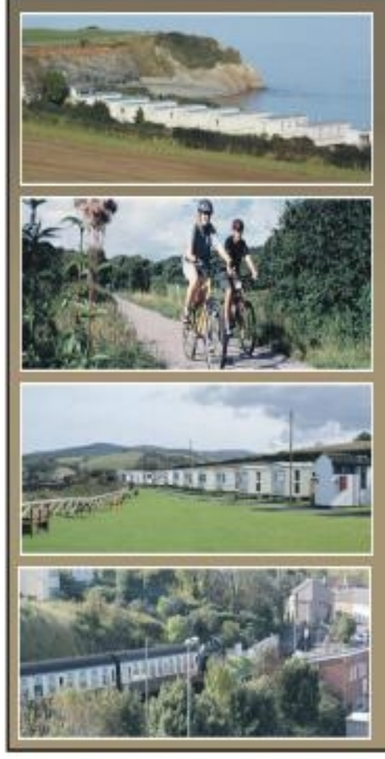

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BUREAU, solid rose wood, excellent condition, £90. Tel. 01865 763851

BLACK leather ankle length coat, size 14/16. £15. Good condition. Tel. 01993 705932

CARAVAN 40 LTR Aquarold water carrier and waster master, both in good condition and with bags. £25 each. Tel. 01235 819981

SIX packs of Maxell DVD+ RW discs 25 discs each, pack brand, new £5 each. Oxford 01865 751074

CREDO Debanair Spin Drier, as new, cost £190, sell £40. Seen Working. Tel. 01993 778827

GARDEN wheel barrow, medium size with galvanised body, pneumatic tyre, little use, very good. £18. 01865 891271

SEVERAL small items for sale, brass and china, cheap, your price. Garsington. Tel. 01865 361363

GIRLS, pink scooter, never used, cost £40, sell for £25. Tel. 01993 705932

ONE full set of digging blades for small Bandmaster Rotorator, Price £10. Tel 01865891271

REEBOK RE3000 Cross Trainer, good condition, price £60.00, Tel 01993776572

19505 Murphy Upright Radio. Ideal for spares, price £5. Tel 01189664940

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SET off stainless steel cutlery, 12 of each knives, forks, spoons, tea spoons, cake forks, £8. Tel. 01865 454713

LADIES classic rain coat. colour beige and brown trim, size 10/12, length - full, accept £45. Tel. 01865 454713

ECCO shoes, ladies, light brown lace up, unworn, was £75, sell £45, size 42 (8). Tel. 01865 454713

OLD wireless circa 40's, offers. Tel. 01865 454713

LADIES classic mid grey striped trouser suit, worn once, again £45. Size 14. Tel. 01865 454713

GREEN trousers with belt and turn ups 34" waist, never worn. bargain £5. Tel. 01608 644877

GABERDINE trousers W36, brand new bargain £5. Tel. 01608 644877

STONE coloured shirt XL, still in packet, never worn £5. Tel. 01608 644877

WOOL sweater, bottle green, sleeveless, brand new £5. Tel., 01608 644877

BLACK chinos, double pleat W36, never worn, still has label on, bargain £5. Tel. 01608 644877

ECCO 3 strap velcro shoes, dark blue, unworn, was £60, sell £30, size 42 (8). Tel. 01865 454713

DARK blue suede slippers, moccasin style, new, £6, size 8. Tel. 01865 454713

RUBBER wood dining table, 106cm round, four brand new leather chairs, £85 ono. Tel. 01235 531883

WANTED: Morris Marina, parts wanted, F&R mudflats, halogen H4 headlights, velour headrests, chrome wheel trim rings, alloy wheels, radio. Tel. 07598 938918

TWO small easy chairs, newly upholstered, £45. Six dining chairs, extending table, vgc, £85. Tel. 01295 730410

30 Ty Beany toys, £1 each, will sell, seperate furry ones. Tel. 01993 705932

MURPHY Upright 1950s Radio £8, needs TLC. Tel. 01189 667940

SHAKESPEARE Fishing Box/seat with keep net and landing net. Would suit beginner. £20. Tel. 01844 278913

QUALCAST hedge master 370, hedge trimmer, electric £20.00. Tel. 01844 278913

BLACK and Decker, 40cm electric chainsaw. £20. Tel. 01844 278913

FLYMO power trim 500 strimmer, £20. Tel. 01844 278913

FORTY eight, 1967 one penny coins, B.U., mounted under plastic. Your bid please or view. Tel. 01865 711077.

DINING chairs, 4 high back, nathan, blue padded seat and back, £10 each, cost £200 each. Tel. 01865 709490

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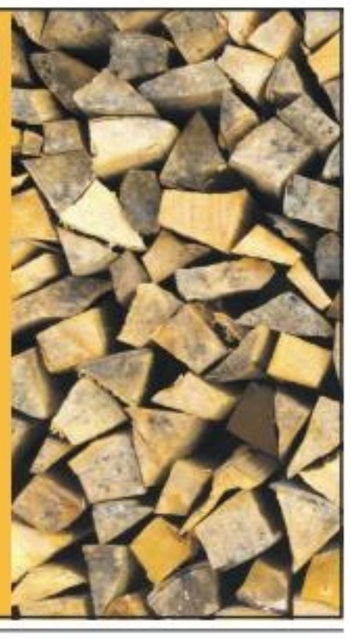

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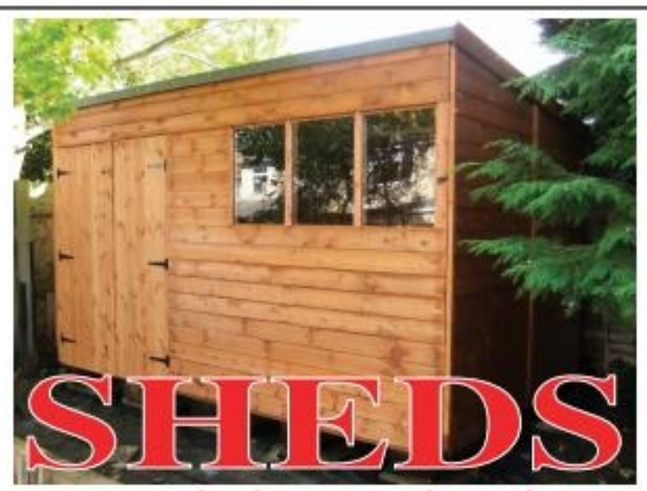

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JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

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Another missed cut for Pepperell in South Africa

Golf

ABINGDON golfer Eddie Pepperell is still waiting to make his first cut of the season after another disappointing result at the Joburg Open in South Africa.

He finished the tournament in a tie for 130th, after bad weather and flooding on Saturday saw the event reduced to just 54 holes.

In a very competitive field, Pepperell ended one under par for his two rounds, posting scores of 69 and 73.

The 26-year-old made a solid start to the tournament, with four birdies and two bogeys in his opening round putting him two under.

However his second round was much more topsy-turvy, with an eagle and two bogeys spoiled somewhat by five bogeys.

That left him on one under par, with four under the cut off point needed to make the final round's play.

So far this season Pepperell hasn't been able to break into the top-100 of the four tournaments he has played in, although his round one score of 69 at the Joburg Open was his first under 70 this year.

South African player Darren Fichardt was the overall winner on 15 under par, one shot ahead of England's Paul Waring and Welshman Stuart Manley.

Golf club tees off green credentials

Golf

BEST known as one of Oxfordshire's finest golf clubs, Frilford Heath now has another award to its name: Outstanding Environmental Project of the Year 2017.

The award, which is one of the categories under the 2017 Golf Environment Awards (GEA), was announced at the Hotel Du Vin, in Harrogate, in a ceremony hosted by the Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) Group in January.

The course lies within Frilford Heath, Ponds and Fens's Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

A unique Oxfordshire habitat, Frilford Heath Golf Club amazed the judging panel with their fen restoration works at Boundary House Fen.

Neglected for many years, their efforts have seen the return of a number of fen indicator species including bog pimpernel, which is only found at a handful of sites in Oxfordshire.

In partnership with Natural England, and with the help of Abingdon Green Gym volunteers, the green-keeping team have worked to enhance this nationally important habitat for the future of the SSSI.

Speaking about the award, company chairman Alistair Booth said: "We are delighted to receive recognition for our work with partners by winning this award.

"The fen restoration is just one of a series of activities undertaken at the golf course to enhance the rare habitat."

Oxfordshire's F1 teams get their first chance to try out

Massa pounds round as Stroll spins off

Felipe Massa on track on day one of the test
Picture: Williams Martini Racing

F1 - Williams

By Adam Flinn

WILLIAMS had a mixed start to pre-season testing as Felipe Massa produced some quick times on day one, while Lance Stroll spun off after just 12 laps on day two.

Massa pounded round the Spanish track of Catalunya on the first day of this week's test on Monday, notching up an impressive 103 laps – the second highest amount of any driver.

His time of 1:22.076 was the third fastest of the day, within three tenths of the best time set by Lewis Hamilton in the Mercedes.

Testing is notoriously unreliable in gauging how the cars are performing in comparison to each other, but both the team and Massa were happy after giving the FW40 its first proper run.

Massa said: "The first day of the test is always one where you hope everything on the car works well and that it's reliable, and with 103 laps on the board I'd say that wasn't bad at all.

"It's early to say where we are whilst we're still in this learning stage, but I'm really enjoying driving.

"Overall it was a great first day, which is really positive for the whole team.

"We completed more than 100 laps and I really hope we learn new things day by day and prepare ourselves as best as we can for the first race in Australia."

However it was a tougher day on Tuesday for Massa's rookie teammate Stroll, as an early spin into the gravel trap ended his running prematurely.

The 18-year-old Canadian was six laps into his second run during the morning and was caught out by low grip, sending his Williams barrelling backwards through the gravel.

He was able to recover to the pitlane, but the damage was such that the Grove-based team had to pull down the shutters early.

Rob Smedley, Williams' head of performance engineering, said: "Lance was on lap six of his second run when he had a spin.

"The grip was particularly low and so he spun and went through the gravel backwards.

"Even though the accident was entirely innocuous we've unfortunately had quite a bit of accident damage.

"We will be able to recover the programme in the coming days."

Stroll was back out on track yesterday to try and make up some last ground, with day three of the test continuing as The Oxford Paper went to press.

But despite his troubled start Stroll was optimistic about how things were going.

He said on day two: "It is still early days and I have only done a handful of laps.

"I am just getting to grips with the FW40, and there is still a lot of time ahead of us.

"It was good to finally get behind the wheel to just get a feel for it.

"I need to do a lot more running before I know exactly where I am and where the car is at, and I will have a much better picture once we have more laps under our belts.

"But it was good to break the ice and I am looking forward to some more running."

This week's test ends today, with the second test running from Tuesday to Friday next week, ahead of the first race of the season in Australia on March 26.

Smith gearing up for start of new season

MotoGP

OXFORD MotoGP racer Bradley Smith has been showing off his new bike for the coming season, as Red Bull KTM enter their first MotoGP campaign.

After representing Tech3 at both Moto2 and MotoGP since 2011, Smith, alongside his Yamaha teammate Pol Espargaro, have joined new team Red Bull KTM Factory Racing for their debut 2017 season.

And on Monday last week, the pair helped officially unveil their new KTM RC16 bikes at the new KTM Motorsports building in Munderfing, Austria.

It was rolled out at the end of October 2015 at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg, Austria, and since then the team has conducted more than 50 test days on various GP circuits around the world.

And Smith can't wait to start chasing points with it.

The 26-year-old said: "This is something that you have always wished for and that you've worked for throughout your career.

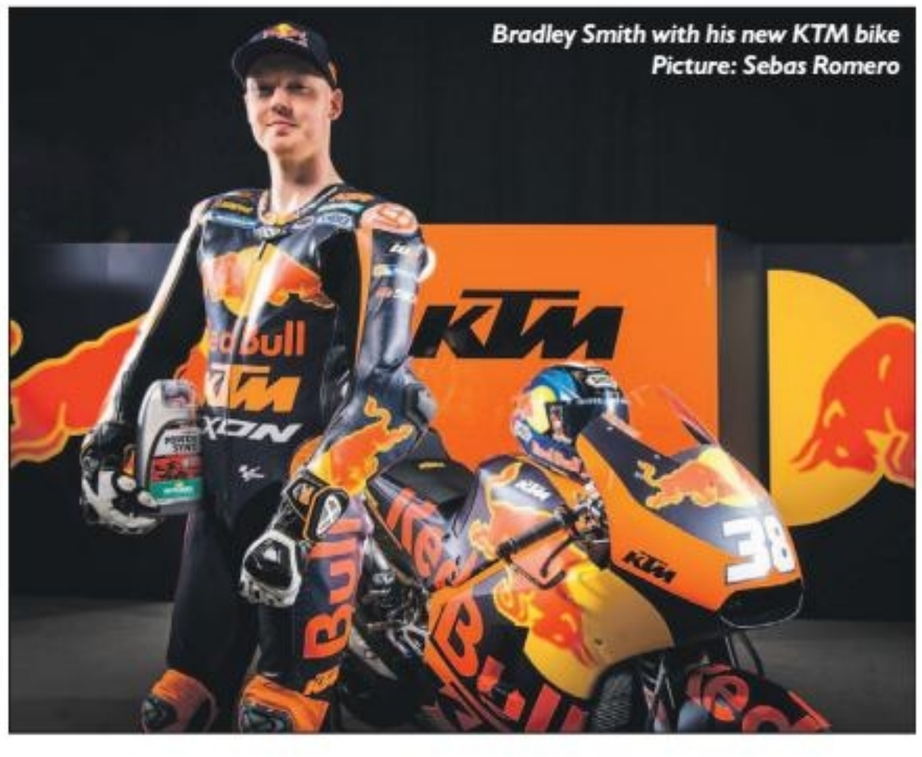
"Finally, when you get the opportunity, there's the pressure that goes with it, but I certainly embrace the opportunity I have.

"Pol and I and all the team will be working incredibly hard.

"We've been busy with the winter tests, and this is just the beginning.

"I'm excited to see what 2017 brings."

Smith also confirmed that he is back to full fitness after injuring his leg last season, with the first GP of the new season taking place in Qatar on March 26.



Bradley Smith with his new KTM bike
Picture: Sebas Romero

their cars as testing begins in Barcelona

Jolyon Palmer took to the track on Tuesday Picture: Renault Sport Formula One Team

Solid start for Renault

F1 - Renault

By Adam Flinn

RENAULT drivers Nico Hulkenberg and Jolyon Palmer each completed a half century of laps as they shared duties on the first two days of this week's pre-season test.

Hulkenberg got behind the wheel of the brand new RS17 on Monday, and chalked up 57 laps as the Enstone-based team ironed out the kinks.

The running was relatively trouble-free, although the team said they spent a bit longer in the garage than planned as modifications were made to the front brake ducts.

Hulkenberg, who has joined Renault for 2017, said: "It was an exciting first day with a new team and completely different type of Formula One car.

"It feels very different out on track with a lot of new aspects to discover as we're at the start of a steep learning curve.

"It wasn't the most trouble-free day, but it's been a good start in my new home."

Day two on Tuesday produced similar results, as Palmer managed to complete 53 laps after a late start to his running.

Renault weren't able to complete any laps in the morning as they were delayed waiting for parts.

However once they got going after lunch, there were only minor interruptions as Palmer completed a full programme.

"We had a productive afternoon with 53 laps," said Palmer.

"I've really enjoyed driving the car, it's completely different from last year and takes a little bit of getting used to but it's actually a lot more enjoyable to drive.

"It's just a shame not to have ran in the morning but we learnt a lot regardless."

Palmer and Hulkenberg were due to share running yesterday as The Oxford Paper went to press, with the test concluding today.

The second test runs from Tuesday to Friday next week.

Remi Taffin, Renault's engine technical director, said: "Everything we've seen from the power unit perspective has been positive, and we're looking forward to getting some bigger mileages under our belts in the coming days."

Magnussen happy with first days in new Haas

F1 - Haas

KEVIN Magnussen made a promising start to his Haas F1 career after giving the Banbury-based team's car its first run-out in the first pre-season test on Monday and Tuesday.

Day one saw him post the fourth quickest time of the session, while he completed a mammoth 118 laps on day two.

Magnussen, who has moved to Haas from Renault for this year, was one of the first drivers out on track on Monday and managed to complete a respectable 51 laps.

His time of 1:22.894 was good enough for fourth out of the 11 runners, just over a second behind the benchmark set by Lewis Hamilton in the Mercedes.

But the team would have been more satisfied with the amount of laps they notched up on Tuesday, with Magnussen completing the most out of any driver.

Once again he was fourth quickest with a 1:22.204, again around a second slower than the leading time set by Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen.

"I got the most laps of anyone, so that sums up our day pretty well, with lots of running," said Magnussen.

"That's what it's all about here at winter testing. We want to put as many miles on the car as possible, to find all of these little problems that can creep up during the season, and catch them as early as possible.

"I'm very happy with the feeling I have in the car and in working with the team, it's been good to get back in a car again."

Romain Grosjean took over from Magnussen for day three yesterday, and is due to continue in the car today as the first test concludes.

'Learning experience' for Brize Norton

Alpine skiing

BRIZE Norton skier Jack Cunningham admits he will put the 2017 English Alpine Championships down as something of a learning curve after a mixed bag of results on the slopes.

Cunningham, 14, joined 400 of the country's most talented skiers at the Italian resort of Bormio to battle it out for the coveted English titles.

The championships celebrated their 10th year in Bormio with Cunningham, who lives on the RAF base, competing in the under-16 category.

The week did not get off to the best of starts as the Cheltenham College pupil failed to finish the first run of the Slalom race.

But he bounced back in the Giant Slalom, clocking the sixth best time before finishing 14th in the Super-G.

That was enough to see him finish as the 16th best British under-16 skier overall, with Cunningham keen to take the positives out of the week.

He said: "My week has been up and down. The Super G was okay, but I didn't ski it well. My GS and Slalom were okay, but could have been better."

Cunningham was not the only skier from the area in action last week with Oxford's Adrian Yung also competing in the under-14 category.

The 12-year-old Magdalen College School pupil was 20th in the slalom first up, 12th in the Giant Slalom and then 19th in the Super-G to finish as the 17th best British skier overall.

Full results are available at snowsportengland.org.uk, while you can find your nearest slope offering Go Ski Go Board sessions at goskigoboard.org.uk.

Jack Cunningham on the slopes in Bormio

Youngsters tackle team spirit

Rugby – under 11s

CHIPPING Norton Rugby Club Under-11s might have missed out on appearing at the Aviva Premiership Rugby Final at Twickenham in May but starlet Tom Wilson still insists he experienced a memorable weekend at a rugby festival.

Wilson and Chipping Norton under-11s had been hoping to head to Twickenham on May 27 to meet an England 2003 Rugby World Cup winner and join in a Land Rover Premiership Rugby Cup Parade at half-time – but it wasn't to be, despite a strong performance at the Gloucester Rugby-organised festival.

Wilson and his team were one of more than 30 teams competing at the Land Rover Premiership Rugby Cup, a nationwide series for under-11 and under-12 teams, in Cheltenham on February 19.

"We passed quite a lot, we communicated well, we rucked over very well to get the ball and passed it out to our wingers to score the tries," said 11-year-old Wilson.

"I play rugby for fun and enjoy playing a game that is just wonderful. I do it because it widens my range of friendships, so I can make friends with people who aren't at the same school as me.

"I've developed my friendships today and we worked well as a team during the games."

Land Rover is a proud supporter of grassroots rugby and has been a partner of the Land Rover Premiership Rugby Cup for nearly a decade. Land Rover's 'We Deal In Real' campaign continues to champion grassroots rugby through Premiership Rugby and the Land Rover Premiership Rugby Cup.

New chairman for Thame

Cricket

THE chairman and vice-chairman have swapped positions in a shake up at the top for Thame Town Cricket Club.

The club announced the decision for Matt Swain (pictured) to replace Angus Lachlan as club chairman following its AGM on February 10.

Swain was unanimously elected for the top job after Lachlan announced he was standing down after a decade as chairman.

Lachlan said: "I have been privileged to hold the position of chairman for 10 years, succeeding acting chairman Rob Brooks following the untimely death of previous chairman John Fulkes in 2004.

"I have enjoyed my time immensely as the club has gone through huge changes in the last 10 years.

"We have grown the membership and club's finances year on year, culminating in the planning of our new clubhouse development which Matt, myself and the rest of the committee are taking forward."

New chairman Swain confirmed that a tender package for the clubhouse development would be ready in April.

On the day-to-day club matters he added: "We are lucky to have a stable and dedicated club committee to run our expanding activities.

"My priorities as chairman will be to continue to grow club membership and develop our close relationships with Thame's community, the town council, Lord Williams' School and the town's primary schools."

Oxford Gane a point after debut strike by Evie for home draw

OUWFC

Oxford Women celebrate Evie Gane's equaliser against the Seasiders

UNITED picked up their first point of the WSL Spring Series after fighting out a 1-1 home draw against Brighton.

Having lost at home in their opener to Everton the yellows were keen to kickstart their campaign.

They made their intentions clear in the first five minutes as captain Lauren Haynes managed to find space before her shot drifted wide of the post.

Striker Ini Umotong thought she had put the U's 1-0 up in the 10th minute after a terrific delivery from a corner but the referee had already blown for a foul.

Umotong was also denied minutes later after being through on goal but was brought down by Albion defender Charlotte Young, who was given a rather lenient yellow card.

Midway through the first half Brighton enjoyed a spell of possession but the away side stood firm with some resolute defending.

Oxford's strong defence was undone in the 32nd minute as Bronwen Thomas struck past United keeper Demi Lambourne to make it 1-0 to the Seasiders.

In the 38th minute another chance fell to Umotong but she blasted over the bar.

The yellows started off the second half brightly and were very much in control of the ball. Again Umotong burst forward but was brought down, with the referee waving play on.

Twenty-five minutes from the end, Evie Gane made a dream debut by equalising for Oxford to secure the first point of the season.

United bid farewell to 'terrific servant'

LOYAL coach Richard Blackmore has left Oxford United's coaching set-up after nearly two decades at the club.

The long-serving Blackmore, pictured right, stepped down last week after 17 years with the U's.

He left the club immediately from his most recent role as general manager at the academy.

United said he "has been a terrific servant of the club" and "will be much missed by everyone behind the scenes".

Over the years Blackmore has held a variety of roles at United, from coach to women's manager.

He told the club website: "I have loved my time at the club and it has been a massive part of my life for so long, but I feel the time is right to move on and find a new challenge.

"I am privileged to have met so many fantastic people along the way and am particularly proud of the work we have done to develop the women's team and the pathway for talented young footballers to make their way all the way to the first team.

"I'd like to thank everyone for their help and friendship over the years and wish the club well for the future."

U's chairman Darryl Eales paid his own tribute, saying: "Richard has worked extremely hard behind the scenes and we are going to miss him.

"On behalf of everyone at the club we thank him for everything he has done and wish him well in whatever he chooses to do next.

"He remains a true friend of the club and is welcome back anytime."

Sky to show Wanderers clash

THE Sky Sports cameras will roll up to the Kassam later this month as Oxford United's Sky Bet League 1 home game against Bolton Wanderers has been selected for TV.

There is no change to the date, with the game still being played on Tuesday, March 21, or to kick-off, which remains at 7.45pm.

Michael Appleton's side returned from Bolton in October with maximum points following an impressive 2-0 win.

Chris Maguire and the now-injured Wes Thomas found the back of the net that day.

The game is the second time the Sky cameras have visited the U's this season, after October's 3-1 defeat to AFC Wimbledon.

Tickets are also now on sale for United's trip to Oldham on Tuesday, March 14.

Get tickets for both games at oufctickets.co.uk or 01865 337533.

SkyBet League 1		GP	GD	PTS
1	Sheffield United	34	26	68
2	Scunthorpe	34	24	61
3	Fleetwood Town	34	18	61
4	Bolton Wanderers	33	17	59
5	Bradford City	35	12	56
6	Millwall	34	8	55
7	Southend United	34	10	53
8	Peterborough United	35	2	50
9	Oxford United	32	9	49
10	Rochdale	32	2	48
11	Bristol Rovers	35	-2	48
12	AFC Wimbledon	34	2	46
13	Walsall	34	-3	46
14	Milton Keynes Dons	34	1	43
15	Charlton Athletic	34	4	42
16	Shrewsbury Town	35	-11	41
17	Northampton Town	35	-8	40
18	Bury	35	-9	40
19	Gillingham	35	-11	39
20	Oldham Athletic	35	-11	39
21	Swindon Town	35	-14	36
22	Portvale	32	-17	34
23	Chesterfield	34	-25	28
24	Coventry	34	-24	25

Didcot go off the rails again as hunt goes on for first win of 2017

Didcot Town

DIDCOT Town are still without their first league win of 2017 after they went down 2-1 at AFC Totton on Saturday.

Their hosts, who sit four places below The Railwaymen, started the brighter of the two and were rewarded with a penalty for handball in the 12th minute.

Totton striker Nathaniel Sherborne stepped up, initially missing from the spot but following up from the rebound to fire the home side in front.

Totton continued to threaten, but George Jeacock made it 1-1 with a low shot from distance that goalkeeper Charlie Seattle was unable to keep out.

The sides went into the break all square. Just after the hour mark Charlie Gibson fired home past Didcot keeper Leigh Bedwell to give Totton a 2-1 lead. Didcot pushed for an equaliser with Callum McNish and Ben Whitehead going close but they were unable to prevent the visitors slipping to an eighth game without a win.

United lose game of Ardley any chances

Ardley United

ARDLEY United succumbed to their first league defeat in five games as they went down 1-0 at home to Lydney Town on Saturday.

In a game of few chances, the first half was one to forget – littered with poor play and a whistle that blew at every challenge.

It took until the 24th minute for any real threat of a goal when a quick Lydney throw saw Lewis Bamford in behind the home defence, but as he looked to shoot a blue shirt got across to block and the chance was gone.

Seconds after the restart the home side started brightly as a Jack Ross pass found Leam Howards but he miskicked his shot.

Ardley continued to dominate, enjoying plenty of possession.

But Lydney's solid defending was rewarded with a penalty 11 minutes from time.

Declan Morley-Lyne fired home from the spot to make it 1-0.

Earlier on, Ardley felt they should have been awarded a penalty when Cruise went down in the box but the referee judged it to be just outside.

Ardley remain sixth in the table and they visit league leaders Brackwell next weekend.

Tuesday's Supplementary Cup game with Letcombe was postponed.

DIDCOT Guardian Sport

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Conor McAleny scores the best of his three goals against Chesterfield on Saturday and inset right, Josh Ruffels in action in the same game Pictures: Darrell Fisher

An in-Spired performance

By George Scotland

OXFORD United moved within four points of the League One play-offs after thrashing Chesterfield 4-0 on the road on Saturday.

On-loan Everton striker Conor McAleny scored two unbelievable goals before completing a hat-trick in the second half as the City of Dreaming Spires showed their class over the relegation threatened Spireites.

The Yellows, like much of their performances this season, showed great energy from the start with wingers Chris Maguire and Rob Hall terrorising the Chesterfield defence.

And it was Hall who fired Oxford in-front after West Ham loanee Toni Martinez made a smart run before storming into the box to square the ball for his team mate, who scored with his first touch.

Chesterfield had only really had two good chances in the first 45 when Simon Eastwood made a good save to keep out Kristian Dennis's effort.

Shortly afterwards, former Championship heavyweight Sylvan Ebanks-Blake was unlucky with a snap shot on the turn that flew straight over the bar.

Just before the break, Liam Sercombe moved forward at pace and then found McAleny, who only joined Oxford last month.

He turned on the style with brilliant technique to smash home a bouncing ball into the top left corner to give them a comfortable 2-0 lead.

Oxford continued to dominate at the Proact Stadium way into the second half but Chesterfield, desperate for points at the bottom of the table, started to throw men forward.

By the 60th minute, 24-year-old McAleny scored his second as the Chesterfield back four failed to close him down. At 3-0 there was no coming back for the home side.

Less than 10 minutes later, Martinez added his name to the list of Oxford United hat-trick heroes as he coolly planted the ball home, assisted by Sercombe.

It could have been worse for Chesterfield.

Maguire and Martinez both had one on one chances before the end but, regardless, 900 away fans went back to Oxford proud after a triumphant victory.

This weekend United are back at the Kassam taking on Bristol Rovers.

Ruffels signs new contract to 2018

AFTER the great result at the weekend there was more good news for United with midfielder Josh Ruffels signing a new contract until June 2018.

The 23-year-old, whose contract was due to expire this year has made 19 appearances for Oxford so far, scoring one goal.

The midfielder has been described by head coach Michael Appleton as 'a trusted member' of the squad but has only made one league appearance since October featuring in the 4-0 thrashing away to Chesterfield on Saturday.

Appleton praised Ruffels in December as a 'diamond' and is glad to have kept him for two more years, recently saying he was an integral part of the squad.

Despite his limited starts for the club this season, the former Coventry City trainee never gave serious consideration to turning down Oxford.

He said: "I've been really happy here. My game time has been limited and the thought of going out on loan was in my mind but I think I've made the right decision now."

Before signing a new contract, the former Kidlington schoolboy had been at the club four years joining in June 2013 on a free transfer.

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